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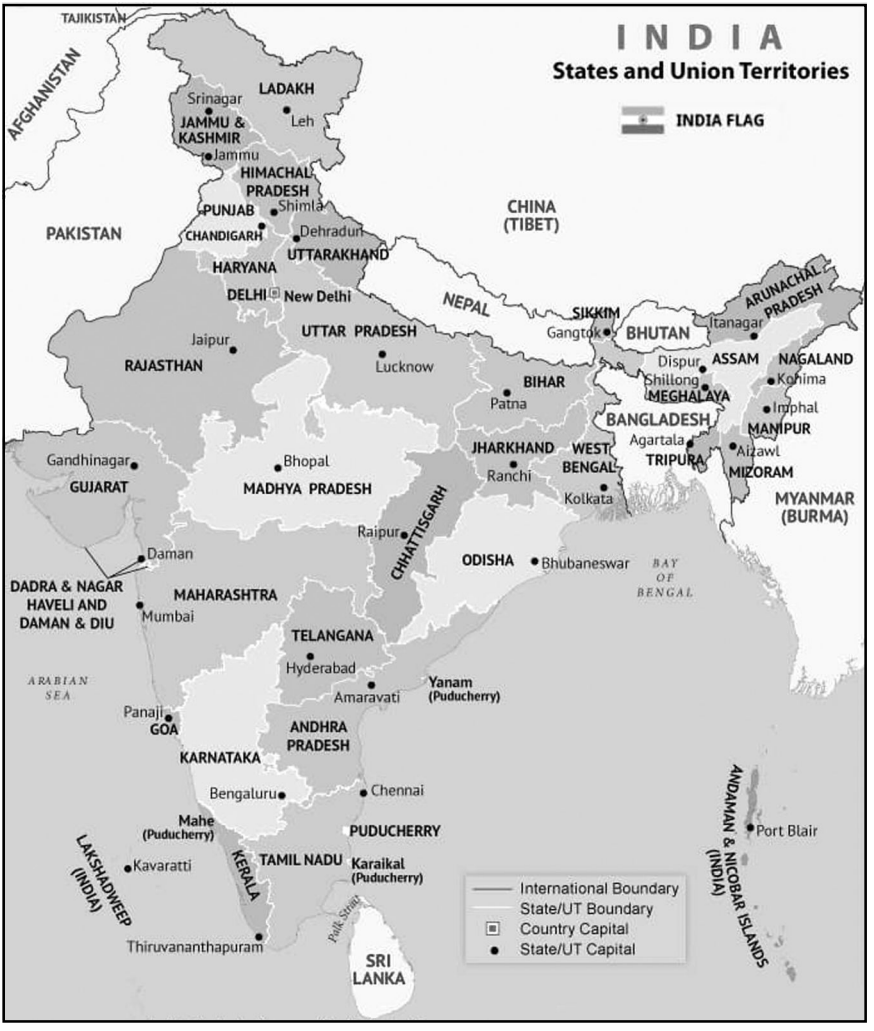
INDIA
States and Union Territories
INDIA FLAG
TAJIKISTAN
AFGHANISTAN
PAKISTAN
CHINA (TIBET)
NEPAL
BHUTAN
BANGLADESH
MYANMAR (BURMA)
SRI LANKA
LADAKH
Srinagar
Leh
JAMMU & KASHMIR
Jammu
HIMACHAL PRADESH
Shimla
PUNJAB
CHANDIGARH
Dehradun
UTTARAKHAND
HARYANA
DELHI
New Delhi
Jaipur
RAJASTHAN
UTTAR PRADESH
Lucknow
Patna
BIHAR
SIKKIM
Gangtok
Itanagar
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
Dispur
ASSAM
NAGALAND
Kohima
Shillong
MEGHALAYA
Imphal
MANIPUR
Agartala
Aizawl
TRIPURA
MIZORAM
JHARKHAND
Ranchi
WEST BENGAL
Kolkata
Gandhinagar
GUJARAT
Bhopal
MADHYA PRADESH
CHHATTISGARH
Raipur
ODISHA
Bhubaneswar
BAY OF BENGAL
Daman
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN & DIU
MAHARASHTRA
Mumbai
TELANGANA
Hyderabad
Amaravati
Yanam (Puducherry)
ARABIAN SEA
Panaji
GOA
ANDHRA PRADESH
KARNATAKA
Bengaluru
Chennai
Mahe (Puducherry)
PUDUCHERRY
Port Blair
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS (INDIA)
LAKSHADWEEP (INDIA)
Kavaratti
KERALA
TAMIL NADU
Karaikal (Puducherry)
Palk Strait
Thiruvananthapuram
International Boundary
State/UT Boundary
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State/UT Capital

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1

Our Country : India

SOME FACTS

- India is the largest democracy in the world with over 90 crore voters.
- India is the world's second largest country, next only to China, in terms of population (1,21,08,54,977 as per 2011 census).
- India is the 6th industrialised country in the world.
- India is the 6th nation to have gone into outer space.
- India is the 7th largest country in the world in terms of size 32,87,263 sq km, about 2.4% of world land area.
- India has a land frontier of about 15,200 km.
- Total length of coastline of mainland + Andaman & Nicobar islands is 7516.6 km.

Location

Entirely in the northern hemisphere India's mainland extends between latitudes $8^{o}4'$ and $37^{o}6'$ north, longitudes $68^{o}7'$ and $97^{o}25'$ east and measures about 3214 km from north to south and about 2933 km from east to west.

Neighbours

- North-West : Afghanistan and Pakistan;
- North : China, Bhutan and Nepal;
- East : Bangladesh and Myanmar;
- South : Sri Lanka separated by Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar.

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IMPORTANT PASSES OF INDIA

1. Karakoram; **2.** Zoji La; **3.** Pir Panjal; **4.** Banihal; **5.** Shipki La; **6.** Rohtang; **7.** Bara-Lacha; **8.** Mana; **9.** Niti; **10.** Nathu La; **11.** Jelep La; **12.** Bomla; **13.** Yanggyap; **14.** Diphu; **15.** Panglad; **16.** Tuju; **17.** Thal Ghat; **18.** Bhor Ghat; **19.** Pal Ghat.

Geographical Features

India can be divided into three broad physical and natural units:

- The Himalayan and mountain region;
- The Central plains, and
- The Peninsular region.

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- **The Himalayan and the Mountain Region:** It forms India's northern boundary from Kashmir in the west to Indo-Burmese border in the east. It is made up of three parallel mountain ranges with extensive plateaus and valleys in between. Some highest peaks in the world lie in these ranges.

  Advantages of the Himalayas: They are: • prevent cold winds from the north, • source of rivers, • forest wealth, • help in bringing rains, • storehouse of herbs and minerals, • rich fauna, • provide dry fruits, • provide tea, • hill stations, • beautiful natural scenes.
- **Central Plains Region:** The plains of the Ganga and the Indus, about 2400 km long and 240 to 320 km broad, are formed by the basins of the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra rivers. These plains are one of the world's greatest stretches of flat alluvium and most densely populated areas on earth.

  Thar desert: The desert region lies west to the Aravalli range. The whole region is full of sand dunes as high as 150 metres. Desert occupies nearly 63 per cent area of Rajasthan and extends to an area of about 640 km long and 210 km wide. Extreme desert conditions are visible in Bikaner, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Churu districts of Rajasthan.
- **The Peninsular Region:** The peninsular region lies to the south of the Gangetic plain. Vindhya and Satpura ranges form its northern boundary and it lies between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats. The southern point of the plateau is formed by the Nilgiri Hills where the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats meet. The land in this region is raised and made up of hard rocks covered with thin soil. However, its north-western part is fertile where beds of black cotton soil are found. In the northern part Narbada and Tapti drain into the Arabian Sea. Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery originate in the Western Ghats and flow to the Bay of Bengal. The deltas of these rivers are very fertile.

  On either side of the peninsular plateau there are narrow coastal strips between the *ghats* and the sea shore, called the eastern coastal strip and the western coastal strip.

Harbours

Only Mumbai and Goa are natural harbours while the harbours at Chennai, Vishakhapatnam and Okha etc. are artificial.

Ports

There are 12 major ports and about 200 non-major ports along India's coastline which is about 7,517 km. The 6 major ports—Kolkata, Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Kamarajar (Ennore), Chennai and V.O. Chidambaranar, are on the east coast and the other major ports, viz., Cochin, New Mangalore, Mormugao, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Sheva, Navi Mumbai) and Deendayal (erstwhile Kandla) are on the west coast.

Most modern port	: Jawaharlal Nehru Port of Mumbai
Tidal port	: Deendayal (Kandla)
Free Trade Zone port	: Deendayal (Kandla)
Oldest port	: Chennai
Deepest port	: Vishakhapatnam

Rivers

The rivers in India may be classified as:

- Himalayan,
- Peninsular,
- Coastal, and
- Rivers of inland drainage basin.

The Himalayan rivers are snow-fed and have water throughout the year. During monsoon, heavy rainfall in the Himalayan regions causes frequent floods in these rivers. *The Peninsular rivers* are only rain-fed and fluctuate in volume and a large number of streams dry up after monsoon. *The Coastal rivers*, specially the western coast rivers, are short and have small catchment areas. The *Rivers of inland drainage basin* of western Rajasthan are few and most of them drain towards their basin or are lost in the desert.

Climate

The Indian sub-continent is characterised by a variety of climate. There are regions with scorching heat to freezing cold. Rainfall is erratic and not evenly distributed. Some parts of Rajasthan receive hardly few inches of rain while Mowsyrnam — a place near Cherrapunji in Meghalaya — receives rain upto 500 inches (the highest in the World).

Seasons

- Winter season (December to March),
- Summer season (April to May),
- Rainy season (June to September), and
- Retreating South-West Monsoon season (October to November).

Flora

The forest cover in the country is 7,13,789 sq. kms. and constitutes 21.71 per cent of its geographical area. Forests may be classified as --- evergreen forests, rain forests, dry area forests, mountain forests and Sundarban delta forests. Forests provide timber, raw materials for various industries, gums, resins, honey, herbs, etc. The Malabar region produces important commercial crops such as coffee, tea, cashewnut, pepper and betelnut.

Fauna

India has a variety of fauna numbering over 92,037 species. Mammals include elephant, *gaur*, rhinoceros, swamp deer, *nilgai, thamin*, antelope, tiger, lion, leopard etc. Colourful birds of the country are valuable possessions. Till 2021 there are 106 national parks, 564 wildlife sanctuaries and over 200 zoological gardens in the country.

Agriculture

India is an agricultural country and about 54.6 is engaged in agriculture and allied activities 2011) and it contributed 17.8 per cent to the country's gross value added for the year 2019-20 (at current prices).

Crops

Three-fourth of the total cultivable land is used for food crops and the rest is used for commercial crops. Major food crops are wheat and rice while the commercial crops are oil seeds, cotton, tea, sugarcane and jute. There are two major crops — *Rabi* and *Kharif*. Rice, *jowar*, *bajra*, maize, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut are the main *kharif* crops whereas wheat, barley, gram, linseed and mustard are the main *rabi* crops. The average per acre yield in India is not very high.

Irrigation

Agriculture in India is mainly dependent on rainfall. Some of the methods of irrigation adopted in India are:

- **Well Irrigation:** About 46 per cent of the total irrigated land in India receives water from wells including tubewell. Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra are important areas of well irrigation.
- **Tank Irrigation:** Tanks are found in large numbers in South India. Rain water is stored in them during rainy season and is used for irrigation

purposes. These tanks cannot be used when rains are deficient. About 3.5 per cent of the total irrigated land in the country gets water through these tanks.

- **Canal Irrigation:** About 39 per cent of the irrigated land in India receives water from canals. There are three kinds of canals in the country — (*i*) Perennial canals supply water for irrigation throughout the year; (*ii*) Inundation canals carry only flood water and therefore, are useful only during rainy season; (*iii*) The reservoir canals get supply of water from huge reservoirs constructed in river valleys and therefore, provide irrigation almost round the year.

Mineral Wealth

India is very rich in mineral wealth.

- **Iron:** Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha are the major iron bearing areas in the country. According to an estimate world's one-fourth iron reserves are in India.
- **Manganese:** India possesses one-third of world reserves of manganese of which she is a major exporter. Manganese deposits exist in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Maharashtra.
- **Mica:** India's 97 per cent mica comes from Andhra Pradesh. It is also found in Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Bihar.
- **Gold:** Gold is extracted mainly from Kolar mines in Karnataka, Hatti Goldfields in Raichur (also in Karnataka) and Ramgiri Goldfields in Anantpur (Andhra Pradesh).
- **Bauxite:** It is found in Odisha, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. Koraput, Kalahandi, Sambalpur and Bolangir districts in Odisha have the largest bauxite deposits in the country.
- **Copper:** It is found chiefly in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- **Coal:** Huge coal reserves exist in Rani Ganj (West Bengal) and Jharia (Jharkhand). Other coal bearing regions lie in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. More than 55 per cent of the coal is extracted from the mines in Odisha and Jharkhand.
- **Chromite:** It is found in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.
- **Nickel:** It is found in Jharkhand, Odisha, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.
- **Gypsum:** It is found in Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.
- **Magnesite:** It is found in Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Trade and Commerce

Total turnover of India's foreign trade stood at 1009.86 billion dollar in 2020-21 as against at 195.1 billion dollar in 2004-05.

- **Major items of Export:** Engineering goods, gems and jewellery, chemicals, leather and leather manufactures, garments, silk, rayon and woollen textile, handicrafts, processed food, jute and jute manufactures, sugar, tea, spices, crude oil, tobacco, newsprint, carpets and marine products.
- **Major items of Import:** Petrol, petroleum products, fertilisers, iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, medicines, paper, edible oil, chemicals, machinery & transport equipment, manufactures of metals, synthetic fibres and plastic materials.

Steel Plants

The major steel plants are: • Bhilai Steel Plant Chhattisgarh; • Durgapur Steel Plant (West Bengal); • Rourkela Steel Plant (Odisha); • Bokaro Steel Plant (Jharkhand); • Burnpur Steel Plant (West Bengal); • Salem Steel Plant (Tamil Nadu); • Vijaynagar Steel Plant (Karnataka); • Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (Andhra Pradesh); • Tata Iron and Steel Company --- TISCO (Jharkhand).

Petroleum Industry

In 1956, Digboi (Assam) was the only oil producing area of the country. At present a number of regions having oil reserves have been identified and the oil is being extracted in these regions. Oil regions in India are Assam, Tripura, Manipur, West Bengal, Mumbai, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Coastal area of Kerala and Andman & Nicobar Islands. According to India 2022, 23 refineries–18 in the public sector, 3 in the private sector and two in joint vanture–the domestic refining capacity was 249.87 million tonnes per annum (MMPTA). Out of 18 public sector refineries, 9 are owned by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), 2 each by Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (a subsidiary of IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC). Numaligarh Refinery Limited (a subsidiary of BPCL) and Manglore Refinery and Petro Chemicals Ltd. have one each.

Major Industries Centres

Cotton Textiles: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, U.P., West Bengal, Karnataka. *Jute:* West Bengal, Assam, Bihar. *Sugar:* U.P., Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil

Nadu. *Silk:* Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal, Karnataka, Assam. *Paper:* Titagarh, Mumbai, Pune, Saharanpur, Nepanagar. *Chemical:* Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Kanpur, Chennai, Bengaluru. *Glass:* Ferozabad and Bahjoi (U.P.), Mumbai, Amritsar (Punjab). *Shipping:* Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Vishakhapatnam, Mazgaon Dock, Mumbai, Garden Reach Ship-builders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata, Kochi Shipyard. *Automobile:* Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Burnpur, Jamshedpur. *Cement:* Porbundar, Katni, Lakheri, Dalmianagar, Vijaiwada, Dadri. *Rail Engine:* Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (West Bengal), Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi (UP). *Coach Factory:* Integral Coach Factory, Perambur (Tamil Nadu), Kapurthala (Punjab). *Telephone:* Bengaluru (Karnataka) and Rai Bareli (UP). *Newsprint:* Nepanagar (MP).

States and Union Territories of India

	States	Capital	Principal Language(s)	Area in (sq. km)	Population 2011
STATES OF INDIA					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Telugu, Urdu	1,60,205	4,93,86,799
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Monpa, Miji	83,743	13,83,727
3.	Assam	Dispur	Assamese	78,438	3,12,05,576
4.	Bihar	Patna	Hindi	94,163	10,40,99,452
5.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Hindi	1,35,191	2,55,45,198
6.	Goa	Panaji	Konkani, Marathi	3,702	14,58,545
7.	Gujarat	Gandhi Ngr	Gujarati	1,96,024	6,04,39,692
8.	Haryana	Chandigarh	Hindi	44,212	2,53,51,462
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Hindi, Pahari	55,673	68,64,602
10.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	Hindi, Santhali	79,714	3,29,88,134
11.	Karnataka	Bengaluru	Kannada	1,91,791	6,10,95,297
12.	Kerala	Thiruva-nanthapuram	Malayalam	38,863	3,34,06,061
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Hindi	3,08,000	7,26,26,809
14.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	Marathi	3,07,713	11,23,74,333
15.	Manipur	Imphal	Manipuri	22,327	28,55,794
16.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Khasi, Garo, English	22,429	29,66,889
17.	Mizoram	Aizawl	Mizo, English	20,987	10,97,206

States		Capital	Principal Language(s)	Area in (sq. km)	Population 2011
18.	Nagaland	Kohima	Angami, Ao, Chang	16,579	19,78,502
19.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Odiya	1,55,707	4,19,74,218
20.	Punjab	Chandigarh	Punjabi	50,362	2,77,43,338
21.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	Hindi, Rajasthani	3,42,239	6,85,48,437
22.	Sikkim	Gangtok	Bhutia, Nepali, Lepcha	7,096	6,10,577
23.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Tamil	1,30,058	7,21,47,030
24.	Tripura	Agartala	Bengali, Kakborek	10,491	36,73,917
25.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun*	Hindi, Garhwali	53,483	1,00,86,292
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Hindi, Urdu	2,40,928	19,98,12,341
27.	West Bengal	Kolkata	Bengali	88,752	9,12,76,115
28.	Telangana	Hyderabad	Telugu, Urdu	1,14,840	3,51,93,978
UNION TERRITORIES					
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	Hindi, Nicobarese	8,249	3,80,581
2.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Hindi, Punjabi	114	10,55,450
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Daman	Gujarati, Hindi	603	5,86,956
4.	Delhi	Delhi	Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi	1,483	1,67,87,941
5.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	Malayalam	32	64,473
6.	Puducherry	Puducherry	Tamil	479	12,47,953
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar/ Jammu	Kashmiri, Dogri, Urdu	2,22,236(1)	1,25,41,302(2)
8.	Ladakh	Leh	Ladakhi	—	—

(1) Includes area of Ladakh (UT) and 78,114 sq. km under illegal occupation of Pakistan, 5,180 sq. km. illegally handed over by Pakistan to China and 37,555 sq. km. under illegal occupation of China.

(2) Including Ladakh

Note: The figures are based on Census of India 2011.

* Provisional Capital.

Special Features

States :

(i)	Largest population	—	Uttar Pradesh
(ii)	Highest density of population	—	Bihar
(iii)	Lowest density of population	—	Arunachal Pradesh
(iv)	Largest in area	—	Rajasthan
(v)	Highest literacy	—	Kerala
(vi)	Minimum population	—	Sikkim
(vii)	Minimum area	—	Goa
(viii)	First to achieve 100% electrification	—	Haryana
(ix)	Lowest literacy	—	Bihar

Union Territories :

(i)	Largest in population	—	Delhi
(ii)	Minimum population	—	Lakshadweep
(iii)	First to achieve 100% literacy	—	Lakshadweep
(iv)	Highest density of population	—	Delhi

Census 2011: Since 1881 census operations take place regularly every ten years. According to 2011 census, the total population of India was 1,21,08,54,977 (62.3 crore male and 58.7 crore female).

Some Special Features: (1) Average density of population --- 382 per sq km. **(2)** Literacy --- Total 73.0% (male --- 80.9%; female --- 64.6%). **(3)** Kerala has more women than men i.e. 1084 women for every 1000 men.

NATIONAL SYMBOLS

- **National Flag:** India's National Flag is a horizontal tricolour with three equal horizontal strips --- saffron at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom. The ratio of width to the length of the flag is 2 : 3. The white strip in the middle has a wheel (with 24 spokes) in navy blue. It is an exact replica of the wheel on the capital of the Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath. It was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on July 22, 1947.
- **National Anthem:** Rabindra Nath Tagore's song *Jana Gana Mana* was adopted as the National Anthem on January 24, 1950. Its playing time is 52 seconds (playing time of a shorter version is only 20 seconds).

- **National Song:** Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's *Vande Mataram* from his novel *Anand Math* is the National Song. It was a source of great inspiration to the people of India in their struggle for freedom.
- **National Emblem:** National Emblem is an adaptation from Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka with only three lions are visible --- the fourth hidden from the view. The wheel *(Chakra)* appears in relief in the centre of the abacus with a bull on the right and a horse on the left. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted. words 'Satyameva Jayate', from *Mundaka Upanishad* meaning 'truth alone triumphs' are inscribed in Devanagari script below the emblem. It was adopted on January 26, 1950.
- **National Calendar:** Introduced for official purposes from March 22, 1957, it is based on Saka era and has a normal year of 365 days.
- **National Bird:** Peacock.
- **National Animal:** Tiger.
- **National Official Language:** Hindi in Devanagari script.

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2

Defence and Transport

DEFENCE

ARMED FORCES

The supreme command of the armed forces is vested in the President of India. However, the responsibility for national defence rests with the Union Cabinet. The Defence Minister is responsible to Parliament for all matters concerning the defence forces. The three services — Army, Navy and Air Force — function under their respective Chiefs of Staff.

CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF (CDS)

To bring in reform in higher defence management in the country, the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was created in the rank of a four-star General with salary and prerequisites equivalent to a Service Chief. The Chief of Defence Staff will also head the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), to be created within the Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary. Gen. Bipin Rawat was the first CDS of the country from January 1, 2020 to December 08, 2021.

Army

The Army with its headquarters in New Delhi is organised into seven commands. Six operational commands and one Army Training commands.

Operational commands are: Western, Eastern, Southern, Northern, Central and South Western. Each command is under a General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the rank of Lieutenant-General (G.O.C). Each command is further divided into areas and sub-areas under General Officer Commanding of the rank of Major General and a Brigadier, respectively.

In addition to the above, there is a Army Training Command based in Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) which is concerned with concepts, doctrines and logistics of warfare and training of various upper ranks of the army. The army consists of a number of services, such as Armoured Corps, Regiment of Artillery, Corps of Engineers, Corps of Signals, Infantry, Army Service Corps, Army Medical Corps, Remount and Veterinary Corps, Army Education Corps, Intelligence Corps, etc.

Air Force

The Indian Air Force is organised into five operational commands— (*i*) Western Air Command (*ii*) South-Western Air Command, (*iii*) Central Air Command, (*iv*) Eastern Air Command, and (*v*) Southern Air Command. In addition, there are two functional commands — the Maintenance Command and the Training Command. The Indian Air Force fleet consists of fighter-bombers, fighter-interceptors, bombers, transport and logistic support aircrafts.

Types of Aircrafts

- **Fighter-Bombers:** Hunters, Ajeets, MIG-21s, MIG-23s, MIG-27s, MIG-29s, Jaguars, Mirage-2000, Sukhoi 30, US-7 and Rafale.
- **Training Aircrafts:** HPT-32, HJT-16 (Kiran), Polish Iskara, HS-748, Pushpak.
- **Transport Aircrafts:** IL-76s, AN-12s, AN-32s, Caribous, Boeing-737 and HS-748s.
- **Helicopters:** Mi-8s, Mi-17, MI-26s, Chetaks and Cheetahs.

Navy

The Navy is responsible for defence and security of India's maritime interests and assets, both in times of peace and war. It is organised into three commands, i.e. Western, Eastern, Southern and Joint command with their headquarters located at Mumbai, Vishakhapatnam and Cochin, respectively. Each Command is headed by a Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the rank of Vice-Admiral. Western Command and Eastern Command have under them operational fleets i.e. Western and Eastern Fleets comprising warships, submarines, aircrafts and other support ships. The Southern Naval Command is responsible for all training activities of the Indian Navy. The Indian Navy consists of sophisticated missile-capable warships, aircraft carriers, destroyers, frigates — including some latest type anti-submarine and anti-aircraft frigates and a squadron of anti-submarine patrol vessels. INS Vikramaditya is modernised and well-equipped aircraft carrier of our navy. Earlier INS Vikrant* and INS Virat** were two aircraft carriers of our navy.

* Decommissioned on January 31, 1997. ** Decommissioned on March 6, 2017.

Destroyers: INS Rajput, Ranjit, Gomati and Godavari Mysore. Submarine: Shalki, Shankul, Nashak. Mine Sweepers: INS Bhatkal, Konkan, Karwar, Kakinada, Cuddalore and Bulsar.

India's biggest naval base Sea Bird is at Karwar in Karnataka. The naval air station at Port Blair, INS Utkarsh carries out air surveillance of islands.

Coast Guard

The Coast Guard was constituted as an armed force of the Union on August 18, 1978 to protect the national interests in the maritime zone of India — a sea area of approximately 28 lakh sq.km. The service is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence with its headquarters at New Delhi. The Director General, Coast Guard, exercises command and control through three regional commanders in Mumbai, Chennai and Port Blair. The force has effectively served national interest in high risk sea by assisting custom authorities in anti-smuggling operations as well as in search and rescue operations.

COMMISSIONED RANKS

Army	Navy	Air Force
General	Admiral	Air Chief Marshal
Lieutenant-General	Vice-Admiral	Air Marshal
Major-General	Rear-Admiral	Air Vice-Marshal
Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
Lieutenant-Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
Major	Lieutenant Commander	Squadron Leader
Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant
Lieutenant	Sub-Lieutenant	Flying Officer

Training Institutions

- **Training Institutions for Army:** The National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla, Pune; Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun; The National Defence College, New Delhi; The Indian Military Academy, Dehradun; Defence Service Staff College, Wellington; Armed Forces Medical College, Pune; The Officers Training School, Chennai; Army Ordnance Corps School, Jabalpur; Army Defence College, Pune; College of Defence Management, Secunderabad; The School of Artillery, Deolali; Military College of Telecommunication Engineering, Mhow and The College of Military Engineering, Kirkee.
- **Training Institutions for Navy:** INS Shivaji, Lonavala; INS Valsura, Jamnagar; INS Vendruthy, Cochin; INS Chilka, Odisha; INS Satavahan,

Vishakhapatnam; INS Garuda, Cochin; INS Mandovi, Goa; INS Dronacharya, Cochin and INS Hamla, Malad (Mumbai).

- **Training Institutions for Air Force:** Air Force Academy, Hyderabad; Fighter Training Wing, Hakim; Elementary Flying School, Bidar; Air Force Technical College, Jalahalli; College of Air Warfare, Secunderabad; Air Force Administrative College, Coimbatore and Institute of Aviation Medicine, Bangalore.
- **Defence Production Undertakings:** There are nine public sector enterprises under the Department of Defence Production: 1. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL); 2. Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL); 3. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. (BEML); 4. Mazagon Dock Ltd. (MDL); 5. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd. (GRSE); 6. Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL); 7. Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL); 8. Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. (MIDHANI); 9. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL).

India's Missile Programme

- **Prithvi:** Surface to surface missile.
- **Nag:** Anti-tank missile.
- **Trishul:** Surface to air missile.
- **Agni:** Surface to surface missile.
- **Akash:** Multi-target surface to air missile.
- **Agni II:** Surface to surface missile with a range of 2,000 km.
- **Agni III:** Medium-Rang Ballistic Missile.
- **Agni IV:** Advansed Ballistic Missile with a range of 3,500 km.
- **Agni V:** Nuclear Capable over 5,000 km Long-Range Intercontinental Ballistic Missile.
- **Brahmos:** Surface to Surface Missile.

Tank Fleet

- **Arjun:** The much-awaited indigenously produced main battle tank (MBT) Arjun rolled out on August 7, 2004.
- **Vijayanta:** It is India's first indigenous tank. Besides, there are T-55 & T-72, Karan and T-90 tank in Indian Army.

Second Line of Defence

- **Territorial Army:** Organised in 1949 for able-bodied persons in the age group of 18 to 42 to give them part-time military training so that in case of emergency they could be called upon.

- **Border Security Force:** A para-military force which guards the frontiers and assists the civil administration of the States.
- **Home Guards:** Organised in 1962 to assist the police in maintaining internal security, to help in defence services and to help the local authorities as and when required.
- **National Service Corps (N.S.C.):** Introduced in 1968 to bring students closer to the real life and to create in them the ideals of responsible leadership.
- **National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.):** NCC was established in 1948. It consists of three divisions: (1) Senior, (2) Junior and (3) Girls. The Senior and Junior divisions are composed of three wings: Army, Navy and Air Force. The senior divisions are intended for colleges whereas junior divisions are intended for secondary school boys and girls.

TRANSPORT

Indian Railways

- **Important Facts:** (*i*) The first train in India was introduced between Mumbai and Thane (34 km) on April 16, 1853. (*ii*) The first electric train was run on Mumbai CST-Kurla line in February 1925. (*iii*) Indian Railways network is the second railways in Asia and the fourth biggest railways in the world. (*iv*) It is country's biggest nationalised undertaking. (*v*) It operates over 15,000 trains covering 7,325 stations daily. (*vi*) Indian Railways has more than 1.25 million employees. (*vii*) It has 12,734 locomotives, 79,835 passenger coaches and 3,02,624 wagons. (*viii*) India's first Metro Railway was introduced in Kolkata on October 24, 1984. (*ix*) Rajasthan's prestigious tourist train is Palace on Wheels. (*x*) About 65.78% of the routhe kilometres is electrified till March, 2021. (*xi*) Total route as on 31.3.2021 was 68,103 km. (*xii*) Metro train service started in New Delhi on December 24, 2002.
- **Administration:** The overall control and administration of Indian Railways is vested in Railway Board, set-up in 1905.
- **Railway Zones:** Indian Railways are organised into following zones. Southern Railway (Chennai); Western Railway (Mumbai Churchgate); Central Railway (Mumbai V.T.); Northern Railway (New Delhi); Eastern Railway (Kolkata); South-Eastern Railway (Kolkata); North-Eastern Railway (Gorakhpur); South-Central Railway (Secunderabad); North-East Frontier Railway (Maligaon —- Guwahati); East Central Railway

(Hajipur); East Coast Railway (Bhubaneshwar): North Central Railway (Prayagraj); North Western Railway (Jaipur); South East Central Railway (Bilaspur); South Western Railway (Hubli); West Central Railway (Jabalpur); Kolkata Metro Railway (Kolkata); South Coast Railway (Vishakhapatnam) (Proposed). Each zone functions under a General Manager.

- **Railway Gauges:** Indian Railways operate on three gauges — Broad Gauge (1.676 metre), Metre Gauge (1.000 metre) and Narrow Gauge (0.762 metre).
- **Fastest Train:** Vande Bharat Express train is the fastest train in India. It runs between New Delhi to Varansi.
- **Production Units:** (1) Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (West Bengal) produces electric engines. (2) Diesel Locomotive Works (Varanasi, U.P.) produces diesel engines. (3) Diesel Component Works (Patiala, Punjab) produces components for diesel engines. (4) Integral Coach Factory, Perambur (Tamil Nadu) produces rail coaches. (5) Rail Coach Factory, (Kapurthala, Punjab) produces railway coaches. (6) Wheel & Axles Plant (Yelahanka, Bengluru) produces wheels and axles.

Shipping

Shipping Corporation of India came into being in 1961.

Shipping plays an important role in the transport sector of India's economy. Approximately, 95 per cent of the country's trade volume (68 per cent in terms of value) in moved by sea. The Headquarters of the Indian Maritime University is functioning at Chennai.

- **Indian Tonnage:** Government nationalized the fiscal regime for Indian Shipping Industry by introducing Tonnage Tax system from the financial year 2004-05 in order to provide Indian Shipping Industry a level playing field vis-a-vis international shipping companies and also facilitate the growth of Indian tonnage. Presently, the SCI's fleet stands at 79 vessels aggregating about 3.26 million GT (5.73 Million DWT) comprising of Cellular Container Vessels, Crude Oil Tankers (including a Combination Carrier), Product Tankers, Bulk Carriers, LPG/ammonia Carriers, Phosphoric Acid Carriers, Passenger-cum-Cargo Vessels and Offshore Supply Vessels. The SCI provides Liner and Passenger Services, Bulk Carrier and Tanker Services, Offshore Services and Specialized Services.
- **Shipyards:** There are four major shipyards in the public sector — (*i*) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata, (*ii*) Mazagon Dock Ltd., Mumbai, (*iii*) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Vishakhapatnam, (*iv*) Kochi Shipyard Ltd., Kochi.

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- **Ports:** India has about 7517 km of main Coast line serviced by 13 major ports and about 200 other ports. The major ports are direct responsibility of the Government of India while the minor ports are managed and administered by the respective maritime State Governments.
- **Training Institutions:** There are three training institutions for merchant navy officers: (*i*) TS Chanakya at Mumbai: it imparts pre-sea training; (*ii*) Lal Bahadur Shastri College of Advanced Maritime Studies and Research, Mumbai and (*iii*) Marine Engineering Research Institute at Mumbai and Kolkata.
- **Miscellaneous Facts:** (*i*) In respect of shipping tonnage India ranks second in Asia, the first being Japan. (*ii*) India's position is 16th in the world in shipping tonnage. (*iii*) The first passenger ship built in India was Harshavardhana.

Civil Aviation

Beginning of civil aviation in India may be traced to 1877 when Joseph Lin flew to a height of 5000 feet in a balloon from Lal Bagh in Mumbai. The World War II gave a fillip to air transport and 11 passengers and cargo aviation companies started operations in the country. All the air routes and companies were nationalised in 1953.

- **Privatization of Air India:** On January 27, 2022 the Government of India successfully handed over Air India to the Tata Group, nearly 69 years after it was taken from TATAs. The Tata Group, as part of the deal are also handed over the Air India express and a 50% stake in the ground handling arm of Air India SATS. Air India will be the third airline brand in Tata's stable as the conglomerate holds a majority interest in Air Asia India and Vistara. Tata Group chairman N. Chandrashekhar witnessed the formal transfer of the Air India to Tata Group. The Government of India on October 8, 2021 had announced the sale of the national carrier to its original developer–the salt-to-software conglomerate Tata Group at an enterprise value of ₹ 18,000 crore. This is the first major privatisation step in about two decades.
- **Airport Infrastructure:** Airports Authority of India (AAI) owns and maintains 136 airports (110 operational and 26 non-operational) comprising 24 international airports (3 civil enclaves), 10 custom airports (4 civil enclaves), 81 domestic airports and 21 domestic civil enclaves.

- **Airports Authority of India:** Airports Authority of India (AAI) is a leader PSU under the Ministry of Civil Aviation engaged in development, building airport infrastructure & managing airports across the length and breadth of the country including remote and far flung areas. AAI came into existence on 01.04.1995 with the merger of the then two authorities (National Airports Authority & International Airports Authority of India). AAI has been bestowed with the responsibility to manage the entire Indian airspace.
- **Pawan Hans Limited:** Set-up in October 1985 and renamed Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, it provides helicopter support service to petroleum sector in off-shore operations and to inaccessible areas and difficult terrains.

Roads

India has one of the largest road networks in the world, aggregating to about 63.71 lakh kilometres till March 31, 2021. The country's road network consists of National Highways, State Highways, Major/Other District Roads and Village / Rural Roads. Though, the National Highways, which is the responsibility of the Central Government, has about 1,40,995 km length and comprises only 2.08 per cent of the total length and breadth of roads, but carries over 40 per cent of the total traffic across the length of the country.

- **National Highways Authority of India:** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) was set up in 1995. It is responsible for development, maintenance and management of National Highways entrusted to it and for matters related or incidental there to.
- **National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation:** The NHIDCL is a fully owned company of the Ministry that exclusively carries out the task of construction/up-gradin/widening of national highways in parts of the country which share international boundaries with neighbouring countries in order to promote regional connectively with neighbouring countries on a sustainable basis.
- **Border Roads Organisation:** It is engaged in construction of roads.
  Some of the important national highways are: Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Kolkata (1645 km); Varanasi-Jabalpur-Bangalore-Cape Commorin (2369 km); Delhi-Jaipur-Ahmedabad-Mumbai (1428 km); Thane-Pune-Hubli-Bangalore-Chennai (1235 km); Cuttack-Bhubaneswar-Vijayawada-Chennai (1533 km); Pathankot-Ganganagar-Barmer-Samkhiali (Kandla) (1526 km).

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Mass Communication, Communications and Cultural Activities

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

- **Broadcasting:** Radio broadcasting started in India in 1927 with two privately- owned transmitters at Bombay (now Mumbai) and Calcutta (now Kolkata). The Government took them over in 1930 and operated them under the name of Indian Broadcasting Service. Subsequently its name was changed to All India Radio in 1936 and since 1957 it is known as Akashvani.

  When India attained independence in 1947, AIR had a network of six stations and 18 transmitters. The coverage was 2.5 per cent of the area and just 11 per cent of the population. All India Radio, since independence, has become one of the largest broadcasting networks in the world. AIR till July 2021 has a network of 499 radio stations and a network of 663 transmitters covering 91.82 per cent of the area and 99.16 per cent of the population.
- **Television (Doordarshan):** Television in India was started in Delhi on September 15, 1959. The facilities were gradually extended to Bombay (now Mumbai) (October 2, 1972), Srinagar (January 26, 1973), Amritsar (September 13, 1973), Pune (October 2, 1973), Calcutta (now Kolkata) (August 9, 1975), Madras (now Chennai) (August 15, 1975), Lucknow (November 27, 1975), Jaipur (March 1, 1977), Rampur (May 10, 1977), Mussoorie (August 12, 1977) and Hyderabad (October 23, 1977). Doordarshan turned commercial from January 1, 1976. In 1976 Doordarshan was separated from the AIR and organised into a full-fledged department.

  Introduction of satellite technology came into operation in 1975. Colour television was introduced in 1982.

Doordarshan witnessed an unprecedented growth with installation of almost one transmitter a day in 1984 and immediately thereafter. Its news reaches over 92 per cent of country's population through a network of more than 1415 terrestrial transmitters.

- **Growing Satellite Channels:** With the liberalization of the airwaves, there has been a proliferation of satellite television channels in India. Now viewers can choose from a large number of channels. The private channels include CNN, Star TV, Star Plus, Star Sports, Channel V, Zee TV, Jain TV, Sun, ATN, Aaj Tak, Sony, SET Max, Discovery and several others.
- **Doordarshan-CNN Tie up:** Doordarshan and Turner International (TI) signed an agreement on June 30, 1995 for a co-venture in 24-hours news programming. CNN International (a part of TI) became the first private broadcaster to be allowed transponder facilities on an Indian satellite and reach out to the Indian audience.

Newspapers and News Agencies

- **Some Historical Facts:** (1) The first newspaper in India appeared in Calcutta (Now Kolkata) on January 29, 1780. It was Bengal Gazette published in English by J. A. Hickey. (2) The oldest existing daily newspaper is Mumbai Samachar (Gujarati) published from Mumbai in 1822. (3) The oldest existing English daily is Times of India, published from Mumbai in 1838. (4) The oldest magazine, Calcutta Review (English) published from Calcutta (Kolkata) in 1844. (5) Indian Press includes 41 centenarians. (6) The total number of registered Newspapers/Periodical was 1,43,423 till March 2020.
- **Employment News:** It is a weekly newspaper published by the Government of India in English, Hindi and Urdu. The first of its kind, it carries complete information on employment opportunities in Central/ State Government Departments, undertakings.

News Agencies

- **Indian:** Press Trust of India (PTI); Bhasha, PTI Hindi Service; United News of India (UNI); Non-aligned News Agencies Pool; Press Council of India; UNIVARTA - Its Hindi service; Hindustan Samachar and Samachar Bharti feed newspapers in Indian languages.
- **Foreign News Agencies:** Near and Far East News (NAFEN), Reuters (Britain), Associated Press of America, United Press of America, Tass (Russia), Globe News Agency, Agency France.

- **Cinema:** The first motion picture was shown in India in 1896 in Mumbai by the touring agent of a French Company. The first Indian to make a motion picture in 1899 was Harischandra Bhatvadekar. The first story film *Pundalik* was made by R.G. Torney and N.G. Chitre in Mumbai in 1912 followed by *Raja Harischandra* made by Dada Saheb Phalke in 1913. The first talkie in India was *Alam Ara*, which was made by Ardeshir Irani in Mumbai in 1931. The first coloured film in India was *Kisan Kanya,* made in 1937 and the first cinemascope film was *Kagaz Ke Phool* made by Guru Dutt in 1959. The first 3-D film was *My Dear Kuttichathan* (Malayalam) in 1984.

COMMUNICATION

Post & Telecommunication

- **Post:** To begin with, the postal and telecommunication services were run by The Post and Telegraph Board which was bifurcated into two separate departments, viz., the Department of Post and the Department of Telecommunications with effect from December 31, 1984.
- **Some Historical Facts: (1)** Modern postal service in India began in 1837. **(2)** The first postage stamp was issued in Karachi in 1852. **(3)** The Postal Department was set up in 1854. **(4)** Money Order system was introduced in 1880. **(5)** Post Office Savings Bank started in 1882. **(6)** Postal Life Insurance was introduced in 1884. **(7)** The Railway Mail Service was started in 1907. **(8)** The Air Mail Service was started in 1911. (**9**) PIN CODE system started in 1972. (**10**) Air lifting of entire First-Class Mail started in April 1949. (**11**) Speed Post service was introduced in August 1986. (**12**) 1988 saw the introduction of Speed Post Money Order Service. (**13**) Postal department has been issuing Special/Commemorative postage stamps since 1931.
- **Telecommunication**: The first telegraph line in the country between Kolkata and Diamond Harbour was opened for traffic in 1851. By March 1884 telegraph messages could be sent from Agra to Kolkata. By 1900, telegraph had started serving the needs of the Indian Railways.

  The telephone service was also started first in Kolkata in 1881-82. The first automatic telephone exchange was commissioned at Simla in 1913-14.
- **Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL):** It was formed in April 1986 by converting the government Overseas Communication Service (OCS)

into a wholly owned public sector company for providing international communications services in India. VSNL offers a wide range of services such as telephone, telex, telegraph, bureau fax, radiophoto, tele-fax, mail box, E. fax.

- **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL):** It was formed in October 2000 by merging Department of Telecom Operations (DTO) and Department of Telecom Services (DTS).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Akademies

There are three akademies for promotion of creative art.

- **Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi:** Established in 1954, the Lalit Kala Akademi strives for the popularisation of Indian art within the country and in various countries of the world through exhibitions, publications, workshops and camps. Every three year it organises the Triennale India, an international exhi-bition. It publishes research papers on Indian arts. Besides organising seminars, it honours eminent artists. The Akademi has set up regional centres called Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendras at Lucknow, Kolkata, Chennai and Bhubaneswar and a small office at Mumbai.
- **Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi:** The Sangeet Natak Akademi, set-up in 1953, aims at the promotion and development of dance, drama and music. It holds seminars and festivals, presents awards to the eminent artists and extends financial assistance to traditional teachers and scholarships to students. It also operates a scheme of exchange of troupes.
- **Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi:** The Sahitya Akademi, established in 1954, has the main functions of development of Indian letters, setting up high literary standards, translation of literary works of one Indian language into other Indian languages, publication of books on history of literature and criticism, bibliogra-phies and reference books. The Akademy has regional offices at Mumbai,Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai.

Sculpture

Archaeological Survey of India, set up in 1861, is responsible for preservation and maintenance of sculptures and historical monuments and manages a number of archaeological museums.

Music

- **Main Schools of Classical Music:** There are two main schools of classical music, namely, the Hindustani and the Carnatic. The Hindustani school of classical music is in vogue in north-western India, eastern India and northern parts of the South India.
- **Musical Instruments:** They are: Tabla, Mridangam, Pakhawaj, Chandai, Dholak, Veena, Sitar, Sarod, Gootuvadhyam, Sarangi, Flute, Nadaswaram, Shehnai, Shringi and Turahi.

Dance

India has a very rich tradition of tribal, folk and classical dances.

- **Dance forms:** The leading forms of classical Indian dances are - Bharat Natyam (Tamil Nadu), Kathakali (Kerala), Kathak (North India), Manipuri (Manipur), Odissi (Orissa), Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh).

Museums

- **Indian Art and Archaeological Museums:** (1) Indian Museum, Kolkata; (2) National Museum, New Delhi; (3) Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.
- **Contemporary Historical and Art Museums: (**1) National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi; (2) Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi; (3) Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata.(4) Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Mumbai; (5) Rail Transport Museum, New Delhi; (6) State Museum, Lucknow.

Libraries

Important libraries in the country are: (1) National Library, Kolkata; (2) Central Reference Library, Kolkata; (3) Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Library, Patna; (4) Central Library, Mumbai; (5) Rampur Raza Library; (6) Tanjavur Maharaja Serfoji Sarasvati Mahal (TMSSM) Library; (7) Asiatic Society; (8) Delhi Public Library, Delhi; (9) Central Secretariat Library, Delhi; (10) Connemara Public Library, Chennai.

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4

Currency, Banks and Insurance

CURRENCY

The metallic currency is controlled by the Government of India whereas the paper currency is controlled by the Reserve Bank of India.

Coins are minted at Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and New Delhi (NOIDA) mints to meet the country's requirement.

All currency notes except the one-rupee notes are issued by the Reserve Bank of India. One-rupee notes are issued by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Notes of small denominations are printed at Currency Note Press, Nasik Road whereas those of higher denominations are printed at Bank Note Press, Dewas. Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad manufactures paper for making currency notes. Decimal system of coins was introduced from April 1, 1957.

BANKS

The State Bank of India is the largest commercial bank in public sector. State Bank of India and its Associate Banks were nationalised in 1956. SBI merged five of its associate banks and Bhartiya Mahila Bank on April 1, 2017, and joined the league of top 50 banks globally in terms of assets.

- **Nationalisation of Banks:** 14 major Banks with deposits of Rs. 50 crore or more were nationalised on July 19, 1969. They were (1) Central Bank of India; (2) Bank of India; (3) Punjab National Bank; (4) Bank of Baroda; (5) United Commercial Bank; (6) Canara Bank; (7) United Bank of India; (8) Dena Bank; (9) Syndicate Bank; (10) Union Bank of

India; (11) Allahabad Bank; (12) Indian Bank; (13) Bank of Maharashtra, and (14) Indian Overseas Bank.

In another bout the following scheduled commercial banks were nationalised on April 15, 1980: (1) Andhra Bank; (2) Corporation Bank; (3) New Bank of India; (4) Oriental Bank of Commerce; (5) Punjab and Sind Bank; and (6) Vijaya Bank. Of these, the New Bank of India was merged with the Punjab National Bank in September 1993 and Vijya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda in April 2019. In 2020 Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India were merged into Punjab National Bank, Syndicate Bank was merged in Canara Bank, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank were merged into Union Bank of India, and Allahabad Bank was merged in Indian Bank. Till 2021 there were 12 public sector banks including SBI in India.

The philosophy of the bank nationalisation was to make these institutions an effective instrument of economic and social development in the country.

- **Regional Rural Banks:** Regional Rural Banks set-up in 1975 are aimed at meeting the credit requirements of the weaker sections, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, artisans and small entrepreneurs. With a view to consolidating and strengthening RRBs' the Government of India initiated, in September 2005, the process of amalgamation of RRBs, in a phased manner. Accordingly as on 30 April, 2020 the total number of RRBs stood at 43.
- **NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development):** This bank was set-up in 1982 for providing credit for the promotion of agriculture,small-scale industries, cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other allied economic activities in rural areas to ensure integrated rural developmentand prosperity in the rural areas. NABARD is an apex institution and provides resources to those agencies that make available productive credit for develop-mental activities.
- **Reserve Bank of India:** The Reserve Bank of India was established in 1935 and nationalised in 1949. It performs the following functions: (1) to issue all other notes except one-rupee notes; (2) to act as banker to the governments; (3) to exercise control over commercial banks and to keep a percentage of their time and demand liabilities with it; (4) to maintain external value of the rupee; (5) to publish financial statistics periodically; (6) other functions include (*i*) to accept deposits from the Central Government, State Governments, banks and local bodies, (*ii*) to purchase and sell bills and their discounting, (*iii*) to provide accommodation to State Governments, local bodies and scheduled banks.

- **Banking in Private Sector:** With the passage of Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1994 private sector banks have come up.

INSURANCE

Before nationalisation 245 private companies were in the insurance business. With the nationalisation came the Life Insurance Corporation in September 1956. Its central office is at Mumbai and eight zonal offices at are Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Bhopal and Patna.

- **General Insurance Corporation of India** was formed in November 1972. With effect from January 1974, the erstwhile 107 Indian and foreign insurers which were operating in the country prior to nationalisation were grouped into four operating companies, namely (*i*) National Insurance Co. Ltd., (*ii*) New India Assurance Ltd., (*iii*) Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., and (*iv*) United India Insurance Co. Ltd. These companies of GIC operate on All-India basis through regional, divisional and branch offices.
- **Unit Trust of India (UTI):** Established as a statutory corporation on 1st February, 1964 under the Unit Trust of India Act 1963, it commenced its operations from 1st July, 1964. The UTI mobilises the savings of the community (of various income groups) by selling units and invests the funds in shares and other securities.

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Planning and Welfare

PLANNING

The need for planning was felt in India even before Independence. The Planning Commission was set-up in 1950. The government on January 1, 2015 replaced Planning Commission with a NITI Aayog.

NITI Aayog

The government on January 1, 2015 replaced the 65-year-old Planning Commission—a relic of the Socialist era—with a Niti Aayog or National Institution for Transforming India, marking a major shift in policy making by involving states. The Aayog will recommend a national agenda, including strategic and technical advice on elements of policy and economic matters. It will also develop mechanisms for village-level plans and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government. To be headed by PM Narendra Modi, the new body will have a governing council comprising CMs of all states and Lt Governors of Union Territories and will work towards fostering co-operative federalism for providing a national agenda to the Centre and states.

National Development Council

The National Development Council, set-up in 1952, consists of representatives of the Central Government as well as the State governments. It is the supreme body insofar as planning is concerned and it determines policies, issues guidelines, reviews working of the plan and finally approves the plan. The Council consists of the Prime Minister (Chairman), all Union Cabinet Ministers, Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories and the Chairman and members of the NITI Aayog. For matters relating to Plans and planning, the Union Minister of Planning is responsible to the Parliament.

- **First Five-Year Plan (1951-56):** Objective was to correct the distortions in the economy of the country caused due to World War II and partition of India. Outlay — ₹ 2378 crore.
- **Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61):** It was aimed at a pattern of development leading to a 'socialistic pattern of society' in India. Outlay — ₹ 6750 crore.
- **Third Five-Year Plan (1961-66):** Objective was self-sufficiency in food. Outlay — ₹ 11,600 crore.
- **Fourth Five-Year Plan (1969-74)*:** Objective was self-reliance and promotion of agriculture and industry. Outlay — ₹ 24,882 crore.
- **Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974-79):** It aimed at removal of poverty. Outlay — ₹ 69,300 crores.
- **Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85):** Its objective was rapid growth in production. Outlay — ₹ 97,500 crore.
- **Seventh Five-Year Plan (1985-90):** It aimed at growth in employment and productivity. Outlay — ₹ 2,18,729 crore.
- **Eighth Five-Year Plan (1992-97)**:** It aimed at human development, larger space for private sector. Outlay — ₹ 7,98,000 crore.
- **Ninth Five-Year Plan (1997-2002):** The total public sector outlay was ₹ 8,59,000 crore and the annual growth rate had been kept at 6.5%.
- **Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-2007):** The total public sector outlay was ₹ 15,25,639.0 crore and the annual growth rate had been kept at 7.7%.
- **11th Five-Year Plan (2007-2012):** The total public sector outlay of the 11th Plan was 35,82,767.0 crore and the annual growth rate was 7.9%.
- **12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017):** 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017) aiming an average "more inclusive" economic growth rate of 8% was approved at the National Development Council (NDC) meeting held in New Delhi on December 27, 2012. The average economic growth in the 11th Plan was 7.9%. While addressing the NDC the than Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has cautioned that slow growth can impact resources needed to implement inclusive programmes. He highlighted that the immediate area of concern was implementing big-ticket infrastructure projects, especially in power sector, which are stuck because of delays in getting clearances and fuel supply. The PM had also asked the Planning Commission to seek views of CMs on fuel supply problems for power plants. Chief ministers cutting across party lines sought more central funds to implement inclusive growth strategies in the 12th five-

* Three Annual Plans from 1966-1969.
** Two Annual Plans from 1990-1992.

year plan at the National Development Council meeting. Most chief ministers welcomed the Central government's Aadhaar-based direct cash transfer scheme.

- **15-Year Vision Plan:** With the end of the Twelfth Plan in March 2017 the era of five year plans came to an end. NITI Aayog has come forward with a draft 15-year vision plan to catapult the country's economy to more than three times as compared to the present day. The new plan is set to replace the centralised five-year plans the country has been following for decades. The new plan is accompanied by shorter sub-plans—a seven-year strategy for 2017-24, and a three-year 'Action Agenda' from 2017-18 to 2019-20. No less than 300 specific action points covering a wide range of sectors have been drawn up as part of the 15-year vision. The 15-year vision document has a seven-year strategy document for 2017-24 as the 'National Development Agenda'. Separately, a three-year 'Action Agenda' from 2017-18 to 2019-20 is also under works to assess funding requirements. The three-year agenda is further divided into seven parts, with a number of specific action points for each part to boost economic growth. India's urban population is expected to increase by 22 crores by 2031. The plan is likely to lay emphasis on urban development, taking a note from China's elaborate long-term development agenda.

WELFARE ACTIVITIES

- **Child Welfare:** There are a number of schemes for the development, care, protection and rehabilitation of children — (1) Integrated Child Development Services which provide a package of immunization, health check-up, education etc; (2) Creches/Day Care Centres; (3) Early Childhood Education; (4) Balwadi Nutrition Programme; and (5) National Children's Fund which supports child development projects; (6) Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which prohibits employment of children in certain hazardous occupations and processes.
- **Upliftment of Women:** Upliftment of women means to protect them against exploitation and discrimination, raising their status and bringing them into the mainstream of development. There are a large number of schemes to provide them education, employment, training in trade and vocations as well as their rehabilitation.

There are many legislations for the protection of rights of women — Equal Remuneration Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act.

- **Consumer Protection:** Government has accorded a high priority to consumer, enactment of Consumer Protection Act and Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, to empower the consumers and registered consumer organisations to file complaints in the courts, grant of financial assistance to consumer organisations, preparation of audio visual material and free distribution of publicity material. Central and State Level Consumer Protection Councils are functioning to protect and promote the rights of consumers such as the right to safety, right to information, right to choose, right to be heard and right to seek redressal. In addition, a Consumer Welfare Fund has been created for promoting interest of consumers.
- **Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:** Our Constitution enjoins upon the State to promote with special care the social, economic and educational interests of the weaker sections of the people in general and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in particular.

  The Government made reservations for Scheduled Castes (15%) and Scheduled Tribes (7½%) in appointment to public services. Yet another Act of Parliament, the Constitution (86th Amendment) Act 1995 facilitated reservation of seats for promotion of SC/ST employees in government. Similarly, reservations of seats were also made for them in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and Panchayati Raj institutions.

  A new Ministry of Welfare was constituted at the Centre in 1985 with a view to providing an integrated thrust to the development of these sections of society.
- **Backward Classes:** Article 15(4) of the Constitution empowers the State to make special provisions for the welfare of Other Backward Classes.
- **Finance Body for Backward Classes:** A National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation has been set-up with an authorised share capital of ₹ 200 crore to provide an additional channel of finance to assist upgradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills of the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs).

- **Schemes for Welfare of the Poor:** There are a number of schemes for unorganised poor in the rural and urban areas: (1) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a major instrument to alleviate poverty. Main objectives of IRDP is to promote welfare of the small and marginal farmers, agricultural labours and rural artisans by creation of sustainable opportunities of self-em-ployment in rural sector which accounts for nearly 3/4 of the country's popula-tion. (2) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) is aimed at generation of additional gainful employment for unemployed and under-employed in the rural areas. (3) Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) was meant to provide guaranteed employment for a certain number of days in a year to the rural landless. The above-mentioned NREP and RLEGP were merged into a single rural employment programme known as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) from April 1, 1989. (4) Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) is aimed at equipping rural youth (age group 18-35 years) with necessary skills and technology to take up vocation of self-employment in agriculture, allied activities, industry, service and business. (5) Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) is designed to provide employment to the urban unemployed and under-employed poor. (6) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) is the finest ever law internationally, that guarantees wage employment at an unprecedented scale. The primary objective of the Act is augmenting wage employment. The Act came into force on February 2, 2006. (7) Prime Minister Ujjwala Plan was started in 2016. Its aim is providing the LPG connection to BPL families at subsidized rates.

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Indian Constitution

The Constituent Assembly adopted the Constitution of India on November 26, 1949. It came into force on January 26, 1950.

Salient Features of the Constitution

- Sovereign, Democratic, Secular, Socialist Republic.
- Universal Adult Franchise.
- Federal Structure.
- Written.
- Flexible.
- Provision of Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties.
- Parliamentary Form of Government.
- Emergency Provisions.
- Independent Judiciary.

Fundamental Rights

- Right to Equality;
- Right to Freedom of Religion;
- Right against Exploitation;
- Right to Freedom;
- Cultural and Educational Rights;
- Right to Constitutional Remedies.

Fundamental Duties

Ten fundamental duties were incorporated in the Constitution through Constitution (42nd) Amendment Act 1976. The 11th Fundamental Duty [Article 51A (K)] was added through the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002.

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Directive Principles of State Policy

They are not enforceable by any Court but it shall be duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws. These principles include organisation of Village Panchayats, provision for just and human conditions of work, equal pay for equal work, unemployment benefits, assistance in old age and sickness, maternity relief, a uniform civil code for the citizens, provision for compulsory and free education of children, separation of judiciary from executive, organisation of agricultural and animal husbandry on modern scientific lines, prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs; protection of national monuments, promotion of international peace and security and settlement of international disputes by arbitration.

UNION EXECUTIVE

It consists of the President, the Vice-President and the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.

President

He is the constitutional head of the Republic but not the real executive.

- **Qualifications:** (1) Indian citizen; (2) age not less than 35 years; (3) should have qualifications for election to Lok Sabha; (4) should not hold any office of profit; (5) should not be a Member of Parliament or State Legislature.
- **Election:** He is elected by the elected Members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
- **Powers:** He makes appointment to all the Constitutional posts. He can address either House of Parliament and send message to them. He can summon and prorogue either House of Parliament and dissolve Lok Sabha. All Bills passed by Parliament must receive his assent to become an Act. He issues Ordinance when Parliament is not in session. No money Bill can be introduced in Lok Sabha without his recommendation. He can grant pardon, reprieve or remit punishment and he can commute death sentences. He can declare national emergency, state emergency and financial emergency.

Vice-President

The Vice-President acts as the ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha and acts as the President when the latter is unable to discharge his functions due to illness,

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absence or any other reason, or till the election of a new President when a vacancy is caused by the death, resignation or removal of the President.

The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. He must be a citizen of India, not less than 35 years of age, and should be eligible for election as a member of the Council of States.

Council of Ministers

Council of Ministers is to aid and advise the President in exercise of his functions. Prime Minister and other ministers are appointed by the President.

- **Cabinet:** Every member of the Council of Ministers is not a Cabinet Minister. Cabinet is a small body consisting of only senior members of Council of Ministers. The Cabinet functions like the executive committee of the Council of Ministers.
- **Functions of the Council of Ministers:** (1) To formulate internal and foreign policy of the government. (2) To decide on the legislative programme of the Parliament. (3) To formulate economic and fiscal policy of the government. (4) To take decision on important administrative matters. (5) To advise Parliament on issues of war and peace with other countries. (6) To advise President on the appointment of high officials.

  The Prime Minister is a link between the President and the Council of Ministers and he keeps the President informed of the decisions relating to the affairs of the State. As head of the Council of Ministers, he is the chief adviser to the President. It is the Prime Minister who approves the policy statement to be made by the President.
- **Official Language:** Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language of the Indian Union with effect from January 26, 1965. The Official Languages Act, 1963 stipulates use of the English Language in addition to Hindi even after January 26, 1965.

  Languages enumerated in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India:

  These are: (1) Assamese; (2) Bengali; (3) Gujarati; (4) Hindi; (5) Kannada; (6) Konkani; (7) Kashmiri; (8) Malayalam; (9) Manipuri; (10) Marathi; (11) Nepali; (12) Odiya; (13) Punjabi; (14) Sanskrit; (15) Sindhi; (16) Tamil; (17) Telugu; (18) Urdu; (19) Bodo; (20) Maithili; (21) Santhali; (22) Dogari.

UNION LEGISLATURE

Union Legislature is called Parliament and consists of the President and the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.

Rajya Sabha

It consists of representatives from the States or the constituent units of the Indian Union. It is a permanent body, one-third of its members retiring every two years. Its maximum strength is 250. Of these, twelve members are nominated by the President from among the well-known personalities in the realm of literature, science, art and social services.

Lok Sabha

Lok Sabha at present consists of 543 members. By the 104th amendment, 2019 of the Constitution the provision of reservation for two members of Anglo-Indian Community nominated by President have been abolished. The number of seats allotted to each State is based on the total population of the State. Unless dissolved earlier, the term of the Lok Sabha is five years from the date appointed for its first meeting.

Functions of Parliament: Main functions are to make laws for the country, to make finances available for the needs of the Government and appropriate funds necessary for the services of the State.

The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha which also votes the salaries and allowances of Ministers and can force the resignation of the Council of Ministers by refusing to pass the budget or any other major legislative measure or by adopting a vote of no-confidence.

The Parliament is also vested with the power to impeach the President and Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, the Comptroller and Auditor General in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Constitution.

Judiciary

Supreme Court is the highest court in the country. It consists of the Chief Justice and not more than 33 other judges, appointed by the President. Only a citizen of India who has been for at least 5 years a judge of a High Court, or for 10 years an advocate of a High Court, or a person, who in the opinion of the President, is a distinguished jurist, is qualified to be appointed Judge of the

Supreme Court. Every judge of the Supreme Court is to hold office until he attains the age of 65 years unless he resigns or is removed by a special procedure. Supreme Court can give opinion on legal matters when requested by the President.

A well-integrated, competent and independent judiciary is the guardian of democracy. It safeguards the rights and liberties of the people. In a federal structure it is also the custodian of the constitution.

Election Commission

It is a three-member body appointed by the President. Its main functions include: (*i*) to lay general rules of election; (*ii*) to determine constituencies and to prepare electoral rolls; (*iii*) to accord recognition to political parties; (*iv*) to allot election symbols; (*v*) to supervise the conduct of elections.

Distribution of Powers between the Union and the States

The Legislative powers of the Union are divided into three lists:

- **Union List:** Important Subjects are: Defence of India; arms, ammunition and explosives; atomic energy; foreign relations; war and peace; citizenship; railways; national highways; shipping; airways; posts and telegraphs; currency; coinage; foreign loans; banking; insurance; higher education; census; elections; audit; tax; duties of Customs; corporation tax; estate duty, etc.
- **State List:** Important subjects are: Public order; police; prisons; local government; public health and sanitation; libraries; roads; bridges; agriculture; preservation and protection of stock; water supply; markets and fairs; land revenue etc.
- **Concurrent List:** Important Subjects are: Criminal law; code of criminal procedure; marriage and divorce; adoption; wills; succession; transfer of properties; trusts; adulteration of foodstuffs; education; forests; registration of births and deaths; price control; factories; electricity; newspapers; archaeological sites and remains; custody, management and disposal of properties; stamp duties, etc.

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Scientific Advancement/ Research : India

The Government of India's Scientific Policy is based on the Scientific Policy Resolution adopted by the Parliament on March 4, 1958 and the Technology Policy Statement announced in January 1983.

Department of Science and Technology

The Department of Science and Technology, set-up in 1971, has been assigned the responsibility of promoting research in new areas of science and technology and supporting and coordinating the activities in the field.

ATOMIC ENERGY

India today ranks sixth in the atomic energy programmes. It has developed the required know-how and expertise to manufacture nuclear weapons, but it believes in the peaceful uses of atomic power. The Atomic Energy Commission was set-up in the country in 1948 under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. J. Bhabha.

- **Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC):** The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Trombay near Mumbai (Maharashtra) has four research reactors: (*i*) APSARA ---- It is the first atomic reactor in Asia; (*ii*) CIRUS ---- It is a joint Indo-Canadian project; (*iii*) PURNIMA II ---- a zero energy fast reactor, and (*iv*) DHRUVA ---- a high power completely indigenous nuclear research reactor with most advanced laboratories in the world. Another fast breeder reactor KAMINI at Kalpakkam has been constructed. Today India is the seventh country in the world and the first developing nation to have mastered the fast breeder reactor technology.

- **Nuclear Power:** Under Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) there are seven nuclear power stations in operation in six States: *(i)* Tarapur—Maharashtra, *(ii)* Rawatbhata—Rajasthan, *(iii)* Kalpakkam—Tamil Nadu, *(iv)* Narora — U.P., *(v)* Kakrapara — Gujarat, (*vi*) Kaiga — Karnataka and (*vii*) Kudankulam — Tamil Nadu.
- **Heavy Water:** Heavy water is one of the essential input for Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) used both as a coolant and moderator. The first heavy water plant was set-up in 1962 in Nangal. Subsequently 7 more plants have been set-up at (*i*) Baroda, (*ii*) Tuticorin, (*iii*) Kota, (*iv*) Talcher, (*v*) Thal, (*vi*) Hazira and (*vii*) Manuguru.
- **Research and Development Centres:** Four research centres namely (*i*) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay (Maharashtra), (*ii*) Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu), (*iii*) Centre for Advanced Technology, Indore (Madhya Pradesh), (*iv*) Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre at Kolkata (West Bengal) are focal points of research and development work in nuclear energy and related discipline.
- **India's Nuclear Explosions:** On May 18, 1974 India conducted her first underground nuclear explosion at Pokhran (Rajasthan) in the Thar desert, 20 km. away from Jaisalmer, at a depth of more than 100 metres. The successful explosion made India the sixth nuclear nation in the world.

India conducted 5 nuclear explosion tests at Pokhran in two phases on May 11 and May 13, 1998 and became a nuclear power state.

SPACE RESEARCH

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) came into existence in 1969. However, in India, space programme was formally organised in 1972 with the setting up of Space Commission and Department of Space (DoS). The primary objective of India's space programme is to develop satellites, launch vehicles and associated ground-systems.

Indian Satellites in Space

- **Aryabhatta:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with the assistance of former USSR built its first satellite in 1975 and launched it successfully into space on April 19, 1975 from a cosmodrome situated there. India became the eleventh country in the world to orbit satellites. The first satellite was named Aryabhatta after the great Indian astronomer and mathematician of the 5th century.

- **Bhaskara I:** India's second satellite Bhaskara I named after Bhaskaras, two ancient Indian astronomers and mathematicians, born in the 6th and 12th centuries, respectively, was also launched from a Soviet cosmodrome on June 7, 1979.
- **Rohini-I:** India's third satellite Rohini-I was launched into space on August 10, 1979 by an Indian manufactured rocket SLV-3 from Sriharikota.
- **Rohini-II:** Rohini-II was the fourth Indian satellite. It was put into orbit like its predecessor Rohini-I. It was launched on July 18, 1980.
- **APPLE:** India's fifth satellite APPLE was launched aboard the European Space Agency's Ariane Launch Vehicle from Kourou in French Guyana on June 19, 1981. It was India's first ever geo-synchronous satellite.
- **Bhaskara-II:** India's sixth satellite Bhaskara-II --- an earth observation satellite --- was launched from Soviet cosmodrome Volgograd on November 20, 1981.
- **INSAT-1A:** India's seventh and most important satellite INSAT-1A was launched from Cape Canaveral on April 10, 1982. It was India's first multipurpose domestic satellite.
- **INSAT-1B:** India's second multipurpose satellite INSAT-1B was launched into space by US Space Shuttle on August 31, 1983. The services of this satellite are used by P & T Department, Meteorological Department, the AIR and the Doordarshan.
- **ANURADHA** is an Indian cosmic ray experiment module to look into the mysterious particles from outer space which bombard the earth's atmosphere.
- **INSAT-1D:** India's communications satellite INSAT-1D was launched on June 12, 1990 from a US launchpad at Eastern Space and Missile Centre, Cape Canaveral, Florida. The fourth and the last in INSAT-1 series, the satellite was to replace INSAT-1B launched in 1983.
- **IRS-1B:** India's second remote sensing satellite IRS-1B was shot into space on August 29, 1991 on a Soviet rocket. The indigenously designed satellite was successfully launched from Baikonour cosmodrome on Soviet rocket Vostok. It was the 5th launch of an Indian satellite from the Soviet Union.
- **INSAT-2A:** India's first indigenous second generation series multipurpose communication satellite INSAT-2A was successfully injected into orbit on July 10, 1992 by Ariane launch vehicle from Kourou, French Guyana in South America.

- **INSAT-2B:** It was successfully launched on July 23, 1993 from Kourou, French Guyana in South America. An Ariane rocket of European Space Agency put India's prestigious satellite into orbit, and Massive Control Facility (MCF), Hassan, Karnataka received the signals just six minutes after the launch. It is designed to remain in operation for about ten years.
- **INSAT-2C:** It was successfully launched on December 7, 1995 by the European launch vehicle Ariane from Kourou in French Guyana in South America. It joined 3 other ISRO satellites INSAT-1D, INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B which were providing television, telecommunication and weather services to India.
- **IRS-1C:** World's most advanced remote sensing satellite, India's IRS-1C was put into orbit successfully by a Russian rocket from Baikonour on December 28, 1995.
- **INSAT-2D:** It was put into orbit on June 4, 1997 from Kourou, French Guyana. It, however, developed defect and was abandoned on October 5, 1997.
- **IRS-1D:** It was placed in the orbit on October 7, 1997 by PSLV-D4.
- **INSAT-3A:** Multipurpose communication satellite INSAT-3A launched successfully on April 10, 2003.
- **INSAT-3E:** Multipurpose communication satellite INSAT-3E launched successfully on September 28, 2003.
- **INSAT-4A:** The fourth generation Communication Satellite INSAT-4A launched successfully on December 22, 2005 from the French Guyana spaceport of Kourou in South America.
- **INSAT-4CR:** Multipurpose Communication satellite INSAT-4CR launched successfully on September 2, 2007 by GSLV-F04.
- **GSLV-D2 Launched Successful:** GSLV-D2 launched successfully on May 8, 2003.
- **PSLV-C6 Launched Successful:** PSLV-C6 was launched successfully on May 5, 2005. It injected 2 satellites CARTOSAT-1 and HAMSAT-1, precisely into their orbits with a time gap of one minute between them.
- **PSLV C-7 Launched Successful:** PSLV C-7 was launched successfully on January 10, 2007. It injected four satellites.
- **PSLV C-8 Launched Successful:** PSLV C-8 was launched successfully on April 23, 2007.
- **PSLV-C12:** India's PSLV-C12 on April 20, 2009 successfully launched 2 satellite RISAT-2 and ANUSAT into Orbit from Sriharikota.
- **PSLV-C14:** India's PSLV-C14 on September 23, 2009 successfully launched Indian remote sensing satellite Oceansat-2 and six European nano satellites.

- **PSLV-C15:** India's PSLV-C15 on July 12, 2010 successfully launched CARTOSAT-2B and four other satellites.
- **PSLV-C16:** India's PSLV-C16 on April 18, 2011 successfully launched Resourcesat-2 and two other satellites.
- **PSLV-C18:** India's PSLV-C18 on October 12, 2011 successfully launched Megha-Tropiues and three nano satellites into Orbit.
- **PSLV-C19:** India's PSLV-C19 on April 26, 2012 successfully launched All-weather Radar Imagine Satellite, RISAT-1.
- **PSLV-C20:** India's PSLV-C20 on February 25, 2013 successfully launched Indo-French Satellite, SARAL and six other satellites into Orbit.
- **PSLV-C21:** India's PSLV-C21 on Sept. 9, 2012 successfully launched Japanese micro space craft and France's spot-6 satellite.
- **PSLV-C22:** PSLV-C22 on July 1, 2013 successfully launched India's first navigation satellite IRNSS-1A.
- **PSLV-C24:** PSLV-C24 on April 04, 2014 successfully launched India's second navigation satellite IRNSS-1B.
- **PSLV-C23:** PSLV-C23 on June 30, 2014 successfully launched five foreign satellites along with French payload SPOT-7.
- **PSLV-C26:** PSLV-C26 on October 16, 2014 successfully launched India's third navigation satellite IRNSS-1C.
- **PSLV-C27:** PSLV-C27 on March 28, 2015 successfully launched India's fourth navigation satellite IRNSS-1D.
- **PSLV-C34:** PSLV-C34 on June 22, 2016 successfully launched 20 satellites including Cartosat-2.
- **PSLV-C42:** PSLV-C42 on September 16, 2018 successfully launched two satellites NOVA–SAR and S1-4 of the UK.
- **PSLV-C44:** PSLV-C44 on January 24, 2019 successfully launched military satellite Microsat-R and student payload Kalamsat.
- **PSLV-C46:** PSLV-C46 on May 22, 2019 successfully launched satellite RISAT-2B.
- **GSLV Mark III:** GSLV mark III on July 22, 2019 successfully launched Chandrayaan-2.
- **PSLV-C49:** PSLV-C49 on Nov. 07, 2020 successfully launched Earth observation satellite EOS-01.
- **PSLV-C51:** PSLV-C51 on February 28, 2021 successfully launched Amejonia and 19 others satellites.
- **PSLV-C52:** PSLV-C52 on February 14, 2022 successfully launched Earth observation satellite EOS-04.
- **PSLV-C53:** PSLV-C53 on June 30, 2022 successfully launched DS-EO and others.

Cryogenic Engine: The Cryogenic engine is smaller, lighter and can carry heavier loads than the Vikas engine. It uses liquid oxygen as oxidiser (enabling the fuel to burn in a rarified atmosphere) and liquid hydrogen as fuel. Since oxygen remains liquid only at –183°C and hydrogen at –253°C, they have to be kept at 'Cryo' (extreme cold) temperature.

First Indian Space Flight: On April 3, 1984, India became the 14th nation in the world to send a man into space. Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma became the first Indian to go into space along with two other Soviet cosmonauts on a spaceship – Soyuz T-11. The 9-day Indo-Soviet joint space mission ended successfully on April 11, 1984.

Space Research Centres: (1) Indian Scientific Satellite Project, Bangalore; (2) Indian Space Research Organisation, Bangalore; (3) Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad; (4) Propelling Fuel Complex, Trivandrum; (5) Satellite Launch Vehicle Project, Trivandrum; (6) Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad; (7) Space Commission, Bangalore; (8) Sriharikota Range, Sriharikota; (9) Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station, Thumba; (10) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum; (11) Liquid Propulsion System Centre, Bangalore.

OCEAN DEPARTMENT

Exploration and exploitation of the resources of the sea assumed greater significance as a result of the new Ocean Regime established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 which assigned India's exclusive rights over economic zone. India's exclusive economic zone covers about an area of 20 lakh sq. km and the continental shelf extends upto 350 nautical miles from coastal land to islands to wide Indian Ocean.

ANTARCTICA EXPLORATION

India entered the field of Antarctic research in 1981 and since then, the Department of Ocean Development has sent twenty-ninth scientific expeditions (the Twenty ninth in March, 2009) to Antarctica, which have carried out valuable studies in the fields of meteorology, radio-wave propagation, geology, geophysics, oceanography, marine biology, microbiology and glaciology. A second permanent station indigenously designed *Maitri* was established by the eighth expedition team in ice-free area about 70 km away from *Dakshin Gangotri*, the first permanent station set-up during 1984-85. India's third permanent station 'Himadri' was also set up.

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8

India : General

Multi-Purpose River Valley Projects

Multi-purpose projects are those projects which serve more than one purpose such as (*i*) Irrigation, (*ii*) Generation of hydro-electric power, (*iii*) Supply of drinking water, (*iv*) Flood control, (*v*) Navigation, (*vi*) Development of fisheries, recreation and sports, (*vii*) Industrialisation, (*viii*) Soil conservation, and (*ix*) Afforestation.

Important river valley multi-purpose projects are: • Tungabhadra Project (Andhra, Karnataka); • Nagarjunasagar Project (Andhra); • Hirakud Dam Project (Odisha); • Ram Ganga Project (Uttar Pradesh); • Periyar Valley Project (Kerala); • Ukai Project (Gujarat); • Kakrapara Project (Gujarat); • Beas Project (Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana); • Bhakra-Nangal Project (Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana); • Farakka Dam Project (West Bengal, Jharkhand); • Damodar Valley Project (West Bengal, Jharkhand); • Mayurakshi Project (West Bengal); • Kosi Project (Bihar); • Gandak Project (Bihar, Uttar Pradesh); • Parambikulam Aliyar Project (Tamil Nadu, Kerala); • Chambal Project (Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan); • Tawa Project (Madhya Pradesh); • Girna Project (Maharashtra); • Purna Project (Maharashtra); • Upper-Krishna Project (Karnataka); • Bhadra Reservoir Project (Karnataka); • Malprabha Project (Karnataka); • Rajasthan Canal Project (Rajasthan); • Mahi Project (Gujarat); • Sabarmati Project (Gujarat); • Ghat Prabha Project (Karnataka); • Mahanadi Reservoir Project (Madhya Pradesh); • Bhima Project (Punjab); • Thein Dam Project (Punjab); • Tehri Dam Project (Uttarakhand); • Nathpa-Jhakari (Himachal Pradesh); • Salal Project and Dul Hasti (Jammu & Kashmir).

Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks

Till 2021 there are 106 national parks, 564 wildlife sanctuaries in the country covering 4.5 per cent of its geographical area. Following are the names of important sanctuaries and parks: Kanha National Park (MP); Shivpuri National Park (MP); Jaldapara Sanctuary (W.Bengal); Kaziranga Sanctuary (Assam); Manas Sanctuary (Assam); Hazaribagh National Park (Jharkhand); Palamau Nation-al Park (Jharkhand); Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary (Jharkhand); Simlipal National Park (Odisha); Bankatna Wildlife Sanctuary (UP); Bharatpur Wildlife Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Darraha Wildlife Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Corbett National Park (Uttarakhand); Chandraprabha Sanctuary (UP); Dachigam Sanctuary (J & K); Dudhva National Park (UP); Nanda Devi Musk Deer Park (Uttarakhand); Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Ranthambore Wildlife Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Sariska Game Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Rangathittoo Bird Sanctuary (Karnataka); Bandipur Sanctuary (Karnataka); Mudumalai Sanctuary (TN); Nagarhole Sanctuary (Karnataka), Dandeli Sanctuary (Karnataka); Mahavir Abhayaranya (Goa-Karnataka border); Periyar Sanctuary (Kerala); Vendanthangal Bird Sanctuary (TN), Gir Forest (Gujarat); Borivli National Park (Maharashtra); Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary (Gujarat); Bondla Game Sanctuary (Goa); Cottigao Game Sanc-tuary (Goa); Mollem Game Sanctuary (Goa); Cottigao Game Sanctuary (Goa); Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary (Maharashtra); Tansa Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (Maharashtra); Ghana Bird Sanctuary (Rajasthan); Sunderban Tiger Sanctuary (West Bengal); Bandhavgarh National Park (MP); Bannarghatta National Park (Karnataka); Eravikulam Rajmallay National Park (Kerala); Ghat Prabha Bird Sanctuary (Karnataka); Khagchandzenda National Park (Sikkim); Pench National Park (Maharashtra); Rohia National Park (Himachal Pradesh); Sultanpur Sarovar Bird Sanctuary (Haryana); Todoba National Park (Maharashtra).

Important Days (India)

Army Day (Jan. 15); Air Force Day (Oct. 8); Children's Day (Nov. 14); Consumers' Rights Day (March 15); Armed Forces Flag Day (Dec. 7); Independence Day (Aug. 15); Martyrs' Day (Jan. 30); Maritime Day (April 5); Navy Day (Dec. 4); National Science Day (Feb. 28); National Solidarity Day (Oct. 20); National Integration Day (Oct. 31); National Youth Day (Jan. 12); Republic Day (Jan. 26); Teachers' Day (Sept. 5); Territorial Army Day (Nov. 17); National Energy Conservation Day (Decem-ber 14).

Important Hill Stations

Almora (Uttarakhand); Cherrapunji (Meghalaya); Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu); Ootacamand (Tamil Nadu); Dalhousie (Himachal Pradesh); Mount Abu

(Rajasthan); Mussoorie (Uttarakhand); Nainital (Uttarakhand); Darjeeling (West Bengal); Gulmarg (Jammu & Kashmir); Manali (Himachal Pradesh); Dharmsala (Himachal Pradesh); Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra); Ranikhet (Uttarakhand); Shillong (Meghalaya); Pachmarhi (Madhya Pradesh).

Important Religions

Religion	Place of Worship	Scriptures
Buddhism	Buddhist Temple & Vihar	Tripitakas
Christianity	Church	Bible
Hinduism	Temple	Vedas, Geeta, Ramayana, Mahabharata
Islam	Mosque	Quran
Jainism	Jain Temple	Teachings of Mahavira
Judaism	Synagogue	Torah
Sikhism	Gurudwara	Guru Granth Sahib
Zoroastrianism	Fire Temple	Zend Avesta

First in India

The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Literature	Rabindra Nath Tagore
The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Physics	C.V. Raman
The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Peace	Mother Teresa
The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Economics	Amartya Sen
The first Indian to get Special Oscar award (1992)	Satyajit Ray
The first and the last Indian Governor-General of free India	C. Rajagopalachari
The first woman to become the Governor of a State	Smt. Sarojini Naidu
The first Indian Chief of the Army Staff*	General K.M. Cariappa
The first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)	General Bipin Rawat
The first ever woman to become the Chief Minister of a State	Smt. Sucheta Kripalani
The first Indian woman President of United Nations General Assembly	Smt. Vijaylakshmi Pandit
The first Indian to become the President of International Court of Justice	Dr. Nagendra Singh

* Conferred the honorary rank of Field Marshal for life on Jan. 6, 1986.

The first Indian woman to swim across the English Channel	Ms. Aarti Gupta
The first Indian girl to become Miss Universe	Miss Sushmita Sen
The first Indian girl to become Miss World	Rita Faria
The first Indian to swim across the English Channel	Mihir Sen
The first Field Marshal	S.H.F.J. Manekshaw
The first Indian recipient of Victoria Cross	Khudadad Khan
The first Indian to conquer Mt. Everest	Sherpa Tenzing, May 29, 1953
The first Indian Cosmonaut (man)	Rakesh Sharma (April 3, 1984)
The first Indian Cosmonaut (woman)	Kalpana Chawla (November 19, 1997)
The first woman to climb Mt. Everest	Miss Bachendri Pal, May 23, 1984
The first ICS	Satyendranath Tagore
The first to address the UN General Assembly in Hindi	Atal Bihari Vajpai
The first Newspaper	Bengal Gazette, Jan 27, 1780
The first Postage Stamp issued	In 1852
The first Telegraph line laid	In 1851, Calcutta; Diamond Harbour
The first Railways run	April 16, 1853; Mumbai-Thane
The first Electric Train run	1925: Mumbai-Kurla
The first Atomic Power Station	Tarapore (Maharashtra)
The first passenger-cum-cargo ship made in India	Harshavardhan
The first Satellite	Aryabhatta (1975)
The first President of the Indian National Congress	W.C. Banerjee
The first President of Indian Republic	Dr. Rajendra Prasad
The first woman judge of the Supreme Court	Ms Fatima Bibi
The first to climb Everest without oxygen	Phu Dorjee (1987)
The first film (movie)	Raja Harishchandra
The first film (talkie)	Alam Ara
The first Metro Railway	Calcutta Metro Railway

The first Test-tube baby, scientifically documented	Born on August 6, 1986 at K.E.M. Hospital, Mumbai
The first TV Centre	At Delhi
The first Indian to get an Oscar	Bhanu Athaiya
The first woman pilot in IAF	Ms Harita Kaur Deol
The first woman to get Olympic Medal	Karnam Malleswari
The first woman Foreign Secretary	Chokila Iyer

Highest, Biggest, Largest & Longest in India

Award for Gallantry, highest	Param Vir Chakra
Award, highest civilian	Bharat Ratna
Bank, with largest number of branches	State Bank of India
Road Bridge, Longest	Bhupen Hazarika Setu. Across Lohit at Assam (9.15 km.)
Cattle Fair, Largest	Sonepur (Bihar)
City, Most Populous	Mumbai metropolis
Corridor, Longest	Rameshwaram Temple corridor (4,000 ft.)
Desert, Largest	Thar (Rajasthan)
Dam, Longest	Hirakud Dam (Odisha)
Delta, Largest	Sunderban's Delta
Dome, Largest	Gol Gumbaj (Bijapur)
Dam, Highest	Tehri Dam (260 m.)
Gateway, Highest	Buland Darwaja at Fatehpur Sikri (176 ft.)
Lake, Largest (Fresh Water)	Wular Lake (Kashmir)
Literacy, Highest	Kerala
Museum, Largest	Indian Museum (Kolkata)
Mosque, Biggest	Jama Masjid (Delhi)
Peak, Highest*	K-2 (Pak-Occupied Kashmir)
Platform, Longest	At Gorakhpur, NE Railway (1355.4 m.)
Railway Bridge, Longest	Vembanad Setu (Kerala 4.6 km)
Railway route, Longest Passenger trains	Dibrugarh to Kanyakumari
River, Longest**	The Ganges (2525 Km)

* Highest peak in the world is Mount Everest, which is in Nepal, K-2 is the second highest peak in the world. It is 8,611 metres high.

** Indus and Brahmaputra (each 2900 km). Both of them, however, cover a long distance outside India.

Rainfall, Highest (annual mean)	Mowsyrnam near Cherrapunji (11,873 mm.)
Road, Longest	Grand Trunk Road (1,500 miles)
State, with maximum forest cover	Madhya Pradesh
State, with maximum density of population	Bihar
Telescope, Largest in Asia	Aries telescope (at Nainital : Uttarakhand) 3.6 m.
Tunnel, Longest (Road)	Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel (J&K 9.28 km.)
Tunnel, Longest (Railway)	Pir Panjal Tunnel, between Banihal and Qazigund stations in J&K (11.21-km Long)
Tower, Highest	Qutub Minar (Delhi, 72.5 m.)
Waterfall, Highest	Kunchikal Waterfall (Karnataka: 455 m.)
Zoo, Largest	Zoological Gardens (Kolkata)

Indian towns, Architectures, Monuments, Buildings and Places of Interest

- **Mt. Abu:** Hill Station in the Aravali Range in Rajasthan; Famous for Dilwara Jain Temple.
- **Ajmer:** Pilgrim centre of Muslims; tomb of Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chisti.
- **Ajanta and Ellora Caves:** Near Aurangabad (Maharashtra), famous for Buddhist cave temples, richly ornamented with sculpture and carved with paintings of exceptional skills.
- **Prayagraj:** Situated at the confluence of the Ganga and the Yamuna, a place of pilgrimage for the Hindus. Kumbh fair is held here.
- **Amarnath:** A place of pilgrimage for the Hindus, 45 km. from Pahalgam in Jammu & Kashmir State.
- **Amritsar:** Founded by Guru Ram Das; a sacred place for Golden Temple; Jallianwala Bagh massacre occurred here on April 13, 1919.
- **Anand:** Near Vadodara in Gujarat. Milk dairy famous for Amul Butter and Amul Milk powder and other milk products.
- **Anand Bhawan:** Residence of Pt. Motilal Nehru in Prayagraj, donated to Indian National Congress.
- **Anandpur Sahib:** A place of pilgrimage for the Sikhs in Punjab (Pakistan).
- **Auroville:** World's first International township near Puducherry where people of all countries live in peace and harmony irrespective of caste and creed. It is named after Shri Aurobindo Ghosh.

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- **Avadi:** Government-owned Heavy Vehicle Factory, manufacturing Vijayant and Ajit Tanks.
- **Ayodhya:** Situated on the bank of river Saryu in Uttar Pradesh. It is the birth place of Lord Rama, and has Ram Janambhumi temple.
- **Badrinath:** Place of pilgrimage for the Hindus near Gangotri glacier.
- **Varanasi:** Seat of Benaras Hindu University, a holy place of the Hindus, famous for silk manufacture and Diesel Locomotive Works.
- **Bhilai (Chhattisgarh):** Gigantic steel plant set-up in collaboration with Russia.
- **Bijapur (Karnataka):** Historical place, famous for Gol Gumbaz (the tomb of Mohd. Adil Shah) and ruins of palaces, mosques and tombs.
- **Birla Planetarium (Kolkata);** India's first and world's second biggest planetarium.
- **Bokaro (Jharkhand):** Famous for the Steel Plant set-up in public sector.
- **Bombay High:** 120 km. north-west of Mumbai in the Gulf of Mumbai, oil struck at the offshore Bombay High on June 18, 1978.
- **Bodh Gaya:** In Bihar, the place where Buddha got enlightenment.
- **Buland Darwaza:** Highest and greatest Gateway at Fatehpur Sikri in Agra built by Akbar to commemorate the victory in the Deccan.
- **Kolkata:** The biggest city of India in West Bengal, famous for palaces, National Library, Victoria Memorial and a big port; a great industrial centre for jute, cotton, paper, pottery and rice mills.
- **Cape Comorin:** Known as Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of India where the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal meet the Indian Ocean. It gives a beautiful sight of sunrise and sunset; also famous for Vivekananda Rock Memorial, named after Swami Vivekananda.
- **Charminar:** A famous monument built by Qutub Shah at Hyderabad.
- **Chitaranjan:** In West Bengal, famous for Diesel Locomotive Works.
- **Dandi:** Located in Gujarat where Mahatma Gandhi launched Salt Satyagrah known as 'Dandi March' in 1930.
- **Darjeeling:** A beautiful hill station in West Bengal.
- **Delhi:** Capital of India; historical places, i.e., Red Fort, Jama Masjid, the Qutab Minar, Rajghat, Shakti Sthala, Shantivana, Vijayaghat.
- **Digboi:** Known for rich oil fields in Assam.
- **Dilwara Temples:** Famous for Jain temples built between 11th-13th century near Mount Abu in Rajasthan.
- **Dwarika:** A sacred place for the Hindus in district Jamnagar, Gujarat. Lord Krishna ruled in Dwarika.

- **Fatehpur Sikri:** Located at a distance of 35 kms from Agra in U.P., it is famous for its historical buildings including Buland Darwaza, the highest gateway in India.
- **Firozabad:** Industrial town in U.P., famous for glass bangle industry.
- **Gwalior:** A historical place in Madhya Pradesh, famous for Tansen's tomb, Rani Laxmi Bai's Chhatri.
- **Haldia:** In West Bengal, a port, a big oil refinery in public sector.
- **Haldighati:** A place near Udaipur in Rajasthan where Maharana Pratap fought a battle against the Mogul forces headed by Man Singh.
- **Haridwar:** A holy place of the Hindus in Uttarakhand, where River Ganges leaves the Mountain, centre of Heavy Electrical Industry at Ranipur.
- **Hyderabad:** Famous for Salarjung Museum — one of the richest and most varied collections in Asia.
- **Jaipur:** Pink city of India, capital of Rajasthan, famous for Hawa Mahal, Jai Singh's observatory, and Maharaja's palace.
- **Jallianwala Bagh:** Located in Amritsar, Punjab, was the scene of massacre of innocent Indians by General O'Dyer on April 13, 1919.
- **Jog Falls:** Located in Karnataka, these are one of the famous waterfalls in the world.
- **Kakrapara:** It is the site of India's fifth atomic power plant on the banks of the Tapti about 86 km from Surat in Gujarat.
- **Kalpakkam:** A place about 60 kms from Chennai where India's 50 MW fast breeder test reactor is located.
- **Kanpur:** Industrial town of U.P., called 'City of Factories', centre of sugar, cotton and woollen mills, leather works, aircraft industry, fertilizer plant.
- **Kapilvastu:** An ancient kingdom of the northern India and associated with Gautam Buddha.
- **Kedar Nath:** A holy place of the Hindus in Garhwal district of Uttarakhand.
- **Khadakvasla:** Near Pune, National Defence Academy is situated.
- **Khajuraho:** In Madhya Pradesh, famous for Hindu Temples' examples of medieval sculpture.
- **Kolar:** Gold fields in Karnataka.
- **Konark:** A town near Puri in Odisha, famous for Sun Temple called Black Pagoda.

- **Kovalam:** Situated on the Malabar coast, 10 km from Trivandrum in Kerala, has been developed as a beach resort.
- **Lucknow:** Capital of U.P., known as the City of Gardens. Historical places, such as Imambara, Tomb of Wajid Ali Shah, Chattar Manzil, Dilkusha Palace are the centres of attraction.
- **Madurai (Tamil Nadu):** Famous for Meenakshi Temple.
- **Mathura:** A holy city in U.P. on the bank of river Yamuna, birth place of Lord Krishna, famous for Temple of Dwarikadheesh.
- **Mahabaleshwar:** The principal hill station of Maharashtra.
- **Mahabalipuram:** Located about 55 km south of Chennai and famous for rock-cut Rath temples.
- **Mussoorie:** A beautiful hill-station in Uttarakhand.
- **Nalanda:** Seat of famous ancient Nalanda University in Bihar.
- **Narora:** It is the site of India's fourth atomic power station near Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh.
- **National Science Centre:** Built at a cost of ₹ 15 crore, it is situated at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- **Nasik:** In Maharashtra, place of the Hindu pilgrimage, famous for brass and copper works, security currency printing press, MIG Factory.
- **Panipat (Haryana):** A big centre of handloom industry and scene of three successive important historic battles, *i.e.* 1526, 1556, 1761.
- **Panna:** In M.P., famous for diamond mines.
- **Plassey:** Situated in West Bengal, the scene of famous battle between Clive and Siraj-ud-Daula in 1757 which paved the way for the British rule in India.
- **Pokharan:** It is in Rajasthan desert about 150 km from the Pakistan border, between Jodhpur and Jaisalmer. India's underground nuclear tests were carried out there both in May 1974 and May 1998.
- **Puducherry:** A Union Territory famous for Aurobindo Ashram.
- **Porbandar (in Gujarat):** Birth place of Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Puri:** In Odisha, famous for the Jagannath Temple.
- **Pusa:** Agricultural Research Centre in Bihar.
- **Rajghat:** The Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, on the bank of Yamuna, in Delhi.
- **Rameshwaram:** In Tamil Nadu, a sacred place of the Hindu pilgrimage, situated on an island in the Palk Strait, a large ancient temple with long corridors.

- **Rishikesh:** A religious place near Haridwar on the banks of Ganges in Uttarakhand, also has an antibiotics drug factory.
- **Sabarmati:** Situated in Ahmedabad in Gujarat, famous Ashram of Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Sambhar lake:** A salt water lake in Rajasthan.
- **Sanchi:** Famous for the largest stupas. It is an important Buddhist pilgrimage centre situated near Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh.
- **Sarnath:** Situated near Varanasi in U.P., famous for Buddhist temples. Lord Buddha preached his first sermon in the 'Deer Park' of Sarnath.
- **Sewagram:** It is a village near Wardha where Mahatma Gandhi lived and worked for many years.
- **Shakti Sthala:** In New Delhi near Rajghat, Samadhi of Mrs. Gandhi.
- **Shantiniketan:** Known as Vishwa Bharati, situated near Kolkata, founded by Rabindra Nath Tagore.
- **Shantivana:** Samadhi of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on the bank of the Yamuna in Delhi.
- **Shravanabelagola:** A place of pilgrimage for the Jains having 57.5 feet high monolithic granite statue of Lord Bahubali, Gomateshwara in Karnataka.
- **Shimla:** A clean, beautiful health resort and capital of Himachal Pradesh, important military station.
- **Sivakasi:** Famous for matches and cracker factories in Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu.
- **Somnath:** Famous for its temple situated in the extreme south of Kathiawar.
- **Srinagar:** Capital of Jammu and Kashmir, situated on the bank of river Jhelum, a great tourist centre, Dal lake, etc.
- **Sriharikota:** In the Vellore district on the Andhra Pradesh Coast, it is India's Satellite Launching Centre.
- **Taj Mahal:** It is a world famous white marble mausoleum on the banks of the Yamuna at Agra in Uttar Pradesh.
- **Tanjore:** In Tamil Nadu, famous for Shri Brihadeswara temple, known for its massive architectural excellence.
- **Taxila:** Known for the famous ancient Buddhist university near Rawalpindi (now in Pakistan).
- **Thumba:** India's main space centre and famous for Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station, near Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala.

- **Tin Bigha:** It is a 178 × 85 metres corridor which was leased out to Bangladesh on June 26, 1992 in tune with the 1974-agreement between India and Bangladesh. The corridor will link Bangladesh mainland with its enclaves Dahagram and Angarpota inside Indian territory.
- **Tirupati:** Famous for Sri Venkateshwara temple in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Trombay:** Near Mumbai, it has Bharat Refineries, Hindustan Petroleum, two atomic reactors and a fertilizer factory.
- **Triveni:** In Prayagraj, the confluence of the Ganges, the Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati, famous place of pilgrimage for the Hindus.
- **Udaipur:** It is famous as city of lakes with island, palaces and tourist centre in Rajasthan.
- **Ujjain:** Ancient city in Madhya Pradesh, popularly known as centre of knowledge, famous for its temples. It was the capital of legendary King Vikramaditya.
- **Vaishali:** Situated in Bihar, it was the capital of the famous Vaishali Kingdom in ancient times.
- **Vijay Ghat:** Samadhi of Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on the bank of the Yamuna in Delhi.
- **Vrindavan Gardens:** Beautiful gardens at Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- **Sadaiv Atal:** Samadhi of Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the bank of Yamuna in Delhi.

Important Indian Peaks (Height in Metres)

K-2: 8611 (Pak-Occupied Kashmir); Kanchenjunga: 8598; Naga Parbat: 8126; Gasher Brum: 8068 (Pak-Occupied Territory); Broad Peak: 8047 (Pak-Occupied Territory); Disteghil Sar: 7885 (Pak-Occupied Territory); Masher Brum E: 7821; Nanda Devi: 7817; Masher Brum W: 7806 (Pak Occupied Territory); Rakaposhi: 7788 (Pak-Occupied Territory); Kamet: 7756; Saser Kangri: 7672; Chaukhamba (Badrinath Peak): 7138; Trisul: 7138.

IMPORTANT INDIAN RIVERS (LENGTH IN KM)

Indus: 2900 (in Pak & India both); Brahmaputra: 2900 (in China, India and Bangladesh); Ganga: 2525; Godavari: 1450; Narmada: 1290; Krishna: 1290; Mahanadi: 890; Kaveri: 760.

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9

World Geography

EARTH

The earth constitutes land, water and air. Land is made up of rocks and soil. It is distributed in continents and islands. The water found in oceans, seas, lakes, etc. occupies about 2/3 of the earth's surface. The earth is surrounded by a cover of air, called atmosphere, which extends up to several hundred kilometres above its surface.

Shape: In ancient times people believed that the earth was flat in shape. Greek philosopher Pythagoras (6th century BC) was the first person to declare that the earth was round. After careful measurement, the scientists have found that the earth is slightly oblate (flattened at poles) and not exactly round.

Motions: The earth has two motions: (i) Rotation: Earth makes a complete round on its axis once each 24 hours (more exactly 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4.09 seconds). It causes days and night on the earth. (ii) Revolution: The earth makes a complete round of the Sun in one year. This revolution of earth produces alternate seasons.

Some Facts: • Equal Day and Night — March 21 and September 23. • Longest Day — June 21. • Shortest Day — December 22. • The sunlight takes eight minutes in travelling from the Sun to the Earth. • Average speed of the earth in orbit — 66,600 miles (107,220 km) per hour. • Earth's equatorial diameter is about 7926 miles (12,756 km). • Water (oceans, seas, lakes and rivers) occupies nearly 75 per cent of the surface of the earth. • Earth's average distance from the Moon — 2,38,857 miles (3,84,400 km). • Earth's average distance from the Sun — 93 million miles (149.4 million km).

Greenwich Time: It is the local time of the Greenwich observatory in London on 0^{o} meridian. Greenwich time is international standard time.

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International Date Line: Half way round the earth from the Greenwich is International Date Line on 180º longitude. It runs down mid-Pacific. It is one day earlier on the east of this line than it is on the west of the line. When it is Monday east of the line, it is Tuesday west of the line.

Zones: On the basis of temperature and distribution of solar heat on the surface of the earth, the earth has been divided into five zones: (1) Torrid Zone, (2) North Temperate Zone, (3) South Temperate Zone, (4) Arctic Zone, and (5) Antarctic Zone.

Continents: Large land masses forming large geographical divisions are called continents. There are seven continents: (1) Asia (29.5%), (2) Africa (20%), (3) Europe (6.5%), (4) North America (16.3%), (5) South America (11.8%), (6) Australia (5.2%), and (7) Antarctica (9.6%).

Highest Mountain Peaks: (1) Everest (Asia-8848 metres), (2) Aconcagua (South America-6960 metres), (3) Mckinley (North America-6194 metres), (4) Kilimanjaro (Africa-5895 metres), (5) Elbrus (Europe-5642 metres), (6) Vinson Massif (Antarctica-5140 metres), (7) Kosciusko (Australia-2228 metres).

Largest Oceans: (1) Pacific Ocean (The largest, covers almost 1/3 of the earth's total area, and the deepest about 6.8 miles at Mariana Trench in western Pacific); (2) Atlantic Ocean, and (3) Indian Ocean. Other seas and gulfs are — the Mediterranean Sea, South China Sea, Bering Sea, Caribbean Sea, East China Sea, Sea of Japan, North Sea, Baltic Sea, Hudson Bay and Gulf of Mexico.

Longest Rivers: (1) Nile (6650 km-Africa), (2) Amazon (6570 km-South America), (3) Mississippi-Missouri (5970 km-North America), (4) Yangtze Kiang (5470 km-Asia), (5) Ob Irtysh (5150 km-Europe), (6) Congo (4666 km-Africa).

Great Deserts: (1) Sahara (90 lakh sq km-North Africa), (2) Libyan (16 lakh sq km-North Africa), (3) Australian (16 lakh sq km-Australia), (4) Gobi (10 lakh sq km-Mongolia), (5) Great Victoria (3,23,800 sq km-Australia), (6) Syrian (3,23,800 sq km-Arabia), (7) Arabian (1,29,500 sq km-Arabia).

Largest Islands: (1) Greenland (21,75,600 sq km) (2) New Guinea (7,77,000 sq km), (3) Borneo (7,25,545 sq km), (4) Malagasy (5,90,000 sq km), (5) Baffin Island (4,76,070 sq km).

Highest Waterfalls: (1) Angel (807 m-Venezuela), (2) Mongefossen (774 m-Norway), (3) Kukenaam (610 m-Venezuela), (4) Ribbon (491 m-USA), (5) King George VI (487 m-Guyana), (6) Upper Yosemite (435 m-USA).

Major Producers of Crops, Minerals and Industrial goods

- **Coal**: China, USA, India, Germany, Russia, Australia
- **Cocoa**: Ghana, South Africa, West Indies
- **Coffee**: Brazil, Columbia
- **Copper**: Chile, USA, Peru, Indonesia
- **Cotton**: China, USA, Russia, Egypt, India, Brazil, Argentina, Pakistan
- **Gold**: China, South Africa, Australia, Canada, South America, India
- **Grapes**: France, Italy, Portugal, California (USA).
- **Iron**: Brazil, China, Australia, India
- **Jute**: India, Bangladesh
- **Manganese**: China, South Africa, Brazil
- **Petroleum**: Saudi Arabia, USA, Venezuela, Russia
- **Rice**: China, India, Japan, Myanmar (Burma)
- **Rubber**: Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka
- **Silk**: China, India, Japan
- **Silver**: Mexico, USA, Russia, Peru, India
- **Steel**: China, Japan, India, USA, Germany, Russia, UK
- **Tea**: China, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya
- **Wheat**: China, India, Russia, USA, Canada
- **Wool**: Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, South Africa
- **Tobacco**: China, USA, India, Brazil, Russia.

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10

UN and World Organisations

UNITED NATIONS (UN)

- **Origin:** The UN Charter was signed by 50 countries on June 26, 1945. Officially the UN came into being on October 24, 1945.
- **UN Charter:** The Charter is the Constitution of the UN and contains aims and objectives, organisation and rules and regulations for its functioning.
- **Aims and Objectives:** Security, welfare and human rights.
- **Headquarters:** New York.
- **Flag:** The flag is light blue in colour, and emblazoned in white in its centre is the UN symbol — a polar map of world embraced by twin olive branches open at the top.
- **Official Language:** UN's official languages are English, French, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish. However, working languages are English and French only.

Main Organs of the UN

The six main organs are: (1) General Assembly, (2) Security Council, (3) Economic and Social Council, (4) Trusteeship Council, (5) International Court of Justice and (6) Secretariat.

- **General Assembly:** It consists of representative of all members of the UN. Each member country has only one vote. It meets once a year and passes UN Budget.
- **Security Council:** It is the Executive body of the UN and is mainly responsible for maintaining international peace and security. It has 15 members, 5 of which (USA, UK, France, Russia and China) are

YEARS OBSERVED BY UN

1972: International Book Year; **1973:** Copernicus Year; **1974:** World Population Year; **1975:** International Women's Year; **1979:** International Year of the Child; **1981:** International Year of Disabled; **1983:** World Communication Year; **1985:** International Youth Year; **1986:** International Year of Peace; **1987:** International Year of Shelter for the Homeless; **1990:** International Literacy Year; **1992:** International Space Year; **1993:** International Year for World's Indigenous People; **1994:** International Year of Family; **1995:** Year of Tolerance; **1996:** International Year for Eradication of Poverty; **1999:** Year of Older Persons; **2000:** International Year of the Culture of Peace; **2001:** International Year of Volunteer; **2002:** International Year of Ecotourism; **2003:** International Year of Fresh Water; **2004:** International Year of Rice; **2005:** International Year of Sports and Physical Education; **2006:** International Year of Deserts and Desertification; **2008:** International Year of Patato; **2009:** International Year of Astronomy; **2010:** International Year of Bio Diversity; **2011:** International Year of Forest; **2012:** International Year of Co-operatives; **2013:** International Year of Water Cooperation; **2014:** International Year of Family Farming; **2015:** International Year of Soil; **2016:** International Year of Pulses; **2017:** International Year of Sustainable Tourism for development; **2019:** International Year of Indigenous Languages; **2020:** International year of Plant Health; **2021:** International year of Peace and Trust; **2022:** International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture; **2023:** International Year of Millets.

permanent members. The 10 non-permanent members are elected by General Assembly for a two-year term and are not eligible for immediate re-election.

- **Economic and Social Council:** It has 54 members elected by General Assembly.
- **Trusteeship Council:** It looks after interest of the people in areas not yet independent and leads them towards self-government.
- **International Court of Justice:** It has 15 judges: no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. They are elected by General Assembly and Security Council for a term of 9 years. The Court elects its President and Vice-President for a 3-year term.
- **Secretariat:** It is the Secretariat of the UN and is headed by the Secretary General.

Present Membership: At present 193 countries are its members.

Specialised Agencies of the UN and their Headquarters: 1. International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva; **2.** Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Rome; **3.** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Paris; **4.** World Health Organisation (WHO), Geneva; **5.** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Washington; **6.** International Finance Corporation (IFC), Washington; **7.** International Development Association (IDA), Washington; **8.** International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington; **9.** International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Montreal; **10.** Universal Postal Union (UPU), Berne; **11.** International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Geneva; **12.** World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), Geneva; **13.** International Maritime Organisation (IMO), London; **14.** World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Geneva; **15.** International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome.

Other Associated Bodies of the UN: Important ones are: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund---now United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF), Economical and Social Commission for the Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Other World Organisations

- **Commonwealth of Nations:** It is an important international body founded by Great Britain in 1931. It is a free association of 56 sovereign independent States formerly under British Rule. Important countries are: U.K., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan. *Headquarters:* London.
- **European Union (E.U.):** It is the new name of European Economic Community (EEC) or European Common Market (ECM). Now a union of 27 European Nations. Members are: France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Ireland, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Finland and Sweden. 10 New members namely Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovania were admitted in EU on October 9, 2002. Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU on January 1, 2007. Croatia became member of EU in 2013. It is world's biggest and richest bloc. *Headquarters* — Brussels (Belgium). From January 1, 1999 'Euro' is the common currency of the Union.
- **Interpol:** Established in 1923, it is the popular name of the International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO). Its headquarter is in Lyons, France.

SECRETARIES-GENERAL OF THE UN

1. Trygve Lie (1946-53)
2. Dag Hammarskjoeld (1953-61)
3. U Thant (1961-71)
4. Kurt Waldheim (1972-81)
5. Javier Perez de Cuellar (1982-91)
6. Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali (1992-96)
7. Kofi Annan (1997-2006)
8. Ban ki-Moon (2007-2016)
9. Antonio Guterres (2017-)

- **International Red Cross:** Two International organisations are known respectively as *International Committee of the Red Cross* and the *League of Red Cross Societies,* both with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The first of these is a wholly international agency unconnected with any national society, and attempts to maintain the basic Red Cross principles of Geneva Convention; the second agency is a federation of autonomous national Red Cross Societies designed to further co-operation among them.
- **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC):** Launched in December 1985, it is a eight-member body — India, Maldives, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Afghanistan. With its headquarters at Kathmandu, the association aims at mutual cooperation in matters of common interest.
- **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM):** It is a group of 120 countries mostly developing. The principles of non-alignment were defined in the Bandung (Indonesia) Declaration of 1955 and were reiterated in Brioni (Yugoslavia) Declaration of 1956 by Jawaharlal Nehru, J.B. Tito and Gamel Abdel Nasser. The first NAM Conference was held at Belgrade in 1961. The basic thrust of the movement is in favour of peace, disarmament, development, independence, eradication of poverty and illiteracy.
- **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO):** The treaty was signed at Washington on April 4, 1949, by the Foreign Ministers of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, UK and USA. Greece, Turkey, German Federal Republic, Spain joined later. Poland, Hungary and Czech Republic

were admitted on March 19, 1999. Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Latvia and Estonia were admitted on March 30, 2004. Headquarters is at Brussels (Belgium).

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB):** Established in 1966, it is the Asian counterpart of the American Development Bank and African Development Bank with headquarters at Manila. It helps promote intra-regional trade.
- **Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC):** Constituted in 1973, it has 13 members. With its headquarters at Vienna (Austria), the OPEC countries supply around 85% of the world oil products.
- **South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAPTA):** With Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka its members, the organisation aims at assuming a strong trading bloc.
- **North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA):** Established in 1993, it is composed of the USA, Canada and Mexico. This trading bloc aims at eliminating all tariffs over a period of 15 years.
- **Amnesty International:** With its headquarters at London, the organisation was established in 1961. It works for the protection of human rights and was awarded Nobel Prize for peace in 1977 for its outstanding performance.
- **World Trade Organisation (WTO):** The new World Trade Organisation, which replaces the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), came into effect from January 1, 1995 with the backing of at least 85 founding members, including India. The WTO now comes as the third economic pillar of world-wide dimensions along with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. *Headquarters* — Geneva (Switzerland). The 164 member WTO aims at the liberalisation of world trade.

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11

Space and Space Research

SPACE

Galaxy: We see innumerable stars in the sky at night. A galaxy is a cluster of huge groups of stars. According to astronomers there exist some 60-80 billions of galaxies in the space. Larger galaxies may contain a trillion stars while the smallest may have about a million. Our knowledge is limited to only two galaxies. One, the Milky Way of which our solar system is a part, and the other visible to the naked eyes is Andromeda, which is estimated to be more than 2,000,000 light years from the earth. Scientists have discovered a new galaxy named 'Dwingeloo' hidden behind the Milky Way. Light year is the distance travelled by light in one year at a speed of 1,86,281 miles (299,792.5 km) per second.

Solar System: Our sun is a small star of the galaxy 'The Milky Way', one of the innumerable galaxies in the boundless space. The solar system consists of the sun and the planets that revolve round the sun. The sun is the largest and the central member of our solar system which consists of Eight planets and thousands of minor planets, all of which revolve round the sun in their orbit.

The Eight planets (in order of increasing distance from the sun) are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. The hottest planet and the earth's nearest neighbour is Venus; the mysterious planet is Mars; the largest planet is Jupiter and the planet with bright rings is Saturn. Tens of thousands of minor planets have their orbits between Mars and Jupiter. They are believed to be fragments of larger bodies.

Note: Pluto was stripped of its status as a planet on August 24, 2006.

Planets have no light of their own except the light reflected from the sun.

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Moon: Moon is the earth's satellite and its nearest natural body in the sky. Its diameter is 2,160 miles (3475 km) (about ¼ of earth's diameter) while its circumference is about 6,790 miles (about ¼ of earth's circumference). Its average distance from the earth's centre is 2,38,857 miles (364,000 km). The gravity on the surface of the moon is about 1/6 of earth's gravity.

The moon goes round the earth and also rotates on its axis. The revolution period is 27.3 days and this is also the time taken for the moon to rotate once on its axis. As a result, the same hemisphere is always turned towards the Earth.

There is neither water nor air on the moon, and therefore, it is perfectly calm there. The sky from the moon's surface looks black both during day and night, and stars are visible during day. There are sharp peaked mountains and thousands of craters on the lunar surface.

SPACE RESEARCH

Important Facts: 1. *Geophysical year:* 18-month-long Geophysical year was observed from 1-7-1957 to 31-12-1958. USA and former USSR announced about the launching of artificial satellites. **2.** *"Sputnik-1"* was the first man-made satellite launched by USSR on October 4, 1957. **3.** *Explorer-1* was the first US satellite. **4.** *First Spaceman of the World:* Late Yuri Gagarin (former USSR) April 12, 1961 on Vostok I. **5.** *First Spacewoman of the World:* Valentina Tereshkova (former USSR), June 16, 1963. **6.** *First Man on Moon:* Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin—went by *Apollo-11* and set foot on lunar surface on July 21, 1969. **7.** *First buggy on Moon:* Unmanned '*Lunokhod-I*' was sent by former USSR in November 1970. It worked there on command from earth. **8.** *Luna-16:* The Soviet unmanned spaceship which brought to the earth, moon rock samples etc. **9.** *Skylab:* America's first space laboratory launched in May 1973. **10.** In July 1975 there was a joint *Apollo-Soyuz* Test flight. Both the crafts launched from America and Russia were manned. They had a rendezvous in the space and created an artificial solar eclipse. **11.** In October 1975, two Soviet probes, *Venus-9* and *Venus-10* soft-landed on Venus.These were launched in June 1975. Both have become artificial satellites of the planet. **12.** *Viking-I* and *Viking-II*—two US Mars probes were launched in 1975. Of these *Viking-I*, which sent back the first dramatic ground level pictures of planet Mars, ended its mission on Aug. 7, 1980. **13.** *Voyager-I* and *Voyager-II*---two US Jupiter probes were launched in August 1977. Photos snapped by these spacecrafts have led to the discovery of a 16th satellite orbiting the planet Jupiter. **14.** In December 1978, two Soviet space probes, *Venus-11* and *Venus-12*

soft landed on Venus. **15.** *Pioneer-II:* Space probe launched by the USA in April 1973. An analysis of data from *Pioneer-I* and *Pioneer-II* indicates the presence of at least ten so far undiscovered satellites and three rings around Saturn. It sent vital information about planet Saturn. **16.** Lt. Col. Arnaldo Amayo-Mendez is the world's first black cosmonaut. **17.** *Venus-13*, unmanned Soviet space probe, launched on Oct 30, 1981, landed on Venus. **18.** Col. Jean-Loup Chretien (French) was a member of the crew of Soviet spaceship which blasted off on June 24, 1982. He is the first non-American westerner to fly into space. **19.** US space shuttle Columbia is the first reusable spaceship of the world. **20.** Sally Ride is the first woman astronaut of the USA. She undertook the space journey in spaceship *Challenger* in June 1983. **21.** *Pioneer-10* launched in March 1972, passed planet Pluto in April 1982 and became the first man-made object to get out of the solar system. **22.** *Soyuz T-12* launched on July 17 carried three cosmonauts, including a woman flight engineer, Svetlana Savitskaya. It was her second flight, earlier being in 1982. Svetlana, during this mission became world's first woman to walk into space conducting metal welding and soldering operation. **23.** US Space shuttle *Challenger* was on a historic '41-G Mission' when it was launched on October 5, 1984. The mission was described as the 'mission of the first sevens' which were as follows: *(i)* seven aboard any spaceship for the first time; *(ii)* two women in the same spacecraft for the first time; *(iii)* first space-walk by a woman astronaut, Sullivan; *(iv)* first woman Sally Ride to have a second trip to space; *(v)* first astronaut (Comm Bob Crippen) to have the fourth space-shuttle flight; *(vi)* first ever flight by a Canadian Marc Garneau; *(vii)* first demonstration of satellite refuelling technique in space. **24.** Russian cosmonaut Yuri Romanenko set a space endurance record of 326 days in space station '*Mir*' in October 1987. **25.** Soviet Union's first space shuttle *Buran* (Snow-storm) made a successful 3 hour 25 minutes unmanned maiden voyage on November 15, 1988; **26.** *Voyager-2* plunged into Neptune's north pole for a close-up look at the icy moon Triton. The spacecraft passed through its closest approach to the planet on August 25, 1989; **27.** Space Shuttle *Atlantis* and Space Station *Mir* docked in the space on June 29, 1995; **28.** Russian cosmonaut Valery Polyakov returned to earth on March 22, 1995 after a record-breaking 437 days in space. **29.** *Mir Abandoned,* after bidding farewell to the 13-year old space platform Mir, its crews returned safely to earth on August 28, 1999. The Mir will now burn up in the atmosphere and fall in the Pacific Ocean. **30.** China launch an unmanned spacecraft named 'Shenzhou' in space (November, 20, 1999). **31.** ISRO launched its first moon mission named Chandrayan I on 22 Oct. 2008. **32.** ISRO launched its first Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) on November 5, 2013.

FIRST IN SPACE

First person to give space flight laws	Isaac Newton
First artificial satellite put into space	Sputnik-1 (1957)
First living being sent into space	Laika, a dog
First manned space flight	Vostok I (1961)
First man in the space	Yuri Gagarin (1961)
First woman cosmonaut	Valentina Tereshkova (former USSR, June 1963)
First person to walk in space	Alexei Leonov (former USSR—March 1965)
First person to set his foot on the moon	Neil A. Armstrong (US—July 21, 1969)
First unmanned *buggy* on the moon	Lunokhod-I (USSR—1970)
First space laboratory in the orbit	Skylab (US—1973)
First mission to bring moon's rock samples to earth	Apollo Programme (US)
First space shuttle	Columbia (US—1981)
First Indian in Space	Sqn. Ldr. Rakesh Sharma on April 13, 1984
First US woman astronaut	Sally Ride in Spaceship Challenger in 1983
First man-made object to go out of the solar system	Pioneer-10
First space docking of Space Shuttle and Space Station	Space Shuttle Atlantis docked with Space Station Mir on June 29, 1995
First Spacecraft to land on Mars	Pathfinder (July 6, 1997)
First woman to command Space Shuttle	Ellin Collins (USA)
First unmanned Spacecraft	Shenzhou (China)

Highlights in Space Travel

- **Columbia:** The first US space shuttle, a reusable spacecraft, was launched from Cape Canaveral on April 12, 1981 with John Young and Bob Krippen aboard and returned to earth on April 14, 1981.

  This space shuttle made several trips to space for carrying equipment and communication satellites.

- **Challenger:** The second US space shuttle Challenger was launched on April 4, 1983 with four astronauts. It made many trips to space upto 1985 but during its 25th trip to space on January 29, 1986 it exploded just 75 seconds after its launch.
- **Discovery:** The third space shuttle discovery with six crew and three communication satellites aboard was launched on August 30, 1984.
- **Atlantis:** The fourth US space shuttle Atlantis was launched in November 1985 and after having performed its objective returned to earth in December 1985.
- **Mir:** The former Soviet Union in February 1986 launched a new orbital space station called Mir, a third generation space laboratory. The cosmonauts stay in this space station by rotation. The Soviet cosmonaut Valery Polyakov set a space endurance record of 437 days in this orbital space station Mir.
- **Buran (Snowstorm):** Buran is Soviet Union's first space shuttle, which on November 15, 1988 made a successful 3 hours 25 minutes unmanned maiden voyage.
- **Phobos Mission:** Launched by the Soviets in July 1988, Phobos I lost contact with the ground, but Phobos-II approached Mars after travelling 180 million km. It was a forerunner to robots in 1990s, hopefully to be followed by a manned return trip by 2010 AD.
- **Galileo Mission:** The US Galileo spacecraft arrived at Jupiter in December 1995 for its two-year orbit.
- **Voyagers Mission:** Launched by US in 1977 Voyager I and II are expected to send information to earth until about 2015 to 2020. In their 17 year incredible space exploration journey, Voyager II passed Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus. They will study Sun's magnetic field, solar wind and ultraviolet light.
- **Atlantis Docked with Mir:** In a second joint US-Russian cooperation flight (the first being in July 1975) US shuttle Atlantis docked with Russia's orbital space station Mir in July 1995 to deliver 2 Russian relief crew and to pick up 2 NASA cosmonauts who went to Mir in March 1995.
- **NASA's Mars Expedition:** US Space Agency, NASA's spacecraft carried two identical six wheeled robotic Rovers designed to search for science of life on Mars. The first Rover–Spirit touched down the rocky Mars surface on January 3, 2004. The second Rover–Opportunity bounced to safe landing on the opposite side of the planet roughly 6,600 miles apart from Spirit on January 25, 2004.

- **Discovery's Successful Space Voyage:** The US space agency NASA launched its space shuttle Discovery, its first manned mission after a gap of almost two and a half years, on July 26, 2005 from Cape Canaveral (Florida, USA). During their two-week sojourn in space, Commander Eileen Collins and her six crew members tested out new safety procedures and delivered supplies and equipment to the International Space Station (ISS).
- **Pluto, Thrown Out:** Pluto was stripped of its status as a planet on August 24, 2006 when scientists from around the world redefined it as a 'dwarf planet', leaving just eight classical planets in the solar system. Discovered in 1930, Pluto was considered the ninth planet in the solar system.
- **Mars Orbiter Mission:** India made history on September 24, 2014 when its ₹ 450 crore Mars Orbiter Mission (MOS) or Mangalyaan was successfully placed in the Red Planet's (Mars') orbit on the very first attempt. The tryst with the Red Planet came 10 months after the ISRO launched its first orbiter to Mars on November 5, 2013. But the final critical moment was on September 24, when the main Liquid Apogee Motor and the eight small thrusters ignited simultaneously and enabled the manoeuvre. All the engines fired flawlessly for 24 minutes and reduced the spacecraft's velocity by 1.09 km per second; this contained the spacecraft in an orbit around Mars. PM Narendra Modi was present at the command centre of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Bengaluru to witness the space history in the making by India. With this grand success, India joined the US, European Space Agency and the former Soviet Union in the elite club of Martian explorers. Later, the colour camera on board the spacecraft beamed back about 10 pictures of 'good quality' of the Red Planet's surface which show some craters.

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12

General Science

INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES

Important Inventions

Name of Invention	Inventor	Nationality	Year
Aeroplane	Orville & Wilbur Wright	U.S.A.	1903
Ball-Point Pen	John J. Loud	U.S.A.	1888
Barometer	Evangelista Torricelli	Italy	1644
Bicycle	Kirkpatrick Macmillan	Britain	1839-40
Bifocal Lens	Benjamin Franklin	U.S.A.	1780
Car (Petrol)	Karl Benz	Germany	1888
Celluloid	Alexander Parkes	Britain	1861
Cinema	Nicolas & Jean Lumiere	France	1895
Clock (mechanical)	I-Hsing & Liang Ling-Tsan	China	725
Diesel Engine	Rudolf Diesel	Germany	1895
Dynamo	Hypolite Pixii	France	1832
Electric Lamp	Thomas Alva Edison	U.S.A.	1879
Electric Motor (DC)	Zenobe Gramme	Belgium	1873
Electric Motor (AC)	Nikola Tesla	U.S.A.	1888
Electro-magnet	William Sturgeon	Britain	1824
Electronic Computer	Dr. Alan M. Turing	Britain	1943
Film (moving outlines)	Louis Prince	France	1885
Film (musical sound)	Dr. Le de Forest	U.S.A.	1923
Fountain Pen	Lewis E. Waterman	U.S.A.	1884
Gramophone	Thomas Alva Edison	U.S.A.	1878
Helicopter	Etienne Oehmichen	France	1924
Jet Engine	Sir Frank Whittle	Britain	1937
Laser	Charles H. Townes	U.S.A.	1960

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Name of Invention	Inventor	Nationality	Year
Lift (Mechanical)	Elisha G. Otis	U.S.A.	1852
Locomotive	Richard Trevithick	Britain	1804
Machine Gun	James Puckle	Britain	1718
Microphone	Alexander Graham Bell	U.S.A.	1876
Microscope	Z. Janssen	Netherlands	1590
Motor Cycle	G. Daimler	Germany	1885
Photography (on film)	John Carbutt	U.S.A.	1888
Printing Press	Johann Gutenberg	Germany	c.1455
Razor (safety)	King C. Gillette	U.S.A.	1895
Refrigerator	James Harrison & Alexander Catlin	U.S.A.	1850
Safety Pin	Walter Hunt	U.S.A.	1849
Sewing machine	Barthelemy Thimmonnier	France	1829
Ship (steam)	J.C. Perier	France	1775
Ship (turbine)	Hon. Sir C. Parsons	Britain	1894
Skyscraper	W. Le Baron Jenny	U.S.A.	1882
Slide Rule	William Oughtred	Britain	1621
Steam Engine (condenser)	James Watt	Britain	1765
Steel Production	Henry Bessemer	Britain	1855
Steel (stainless)	Harry Brearley	Britain	1913
Submarine	David Bushnell	U.S.A.	1776
Tank	Sir Ernest Swinton	Britain	1914
Telegraph	M. Lammond	France	1787
Telegraph Code	Samuel F.B. Morse	U.S.A.	1837
Telephone (perfected)	Alexander Graham Bell	U.S.A.	1876
Television (mechanical)	John Logie Baird	Britain	1926
Television (electronic)	P.T. Farnsworth	U.S.A.	1927
Thermometer	Galileo Galilei	Italy	1593
Transformer	Michael Faraday	Britain	1831
Transistor	Bardeen, Shockley & Brattain	U.S.A.	1948
Washing Machine (elec.)	Hurley Machine Co.	U.S.A.	1907
Zip-Fastener	W.L. Judson	U.S.A.	1891

Important Discoveries

Discovery	Discoverer	Nationality	Year
Aluminium	Hans Christian Oerstedt	Denmark	1827
Atomic number	Henry Moseley	England	1913
Atomic structure of matter	John Dalton	England	1803

Discovery	Discoverer	Nationality	Year
Chlorine	C.W. Scheele	Sweden	1774
Electromagnetic induction	Michael Faraday	England	1831
Electromagnetic waves	Heinrich Hertz	Germany	1886
Electromagnetism	Hans Christian Oersted	Denmark	1920
Electron	Sir Joseph Thomson	England	1897
General theory of relativity	Albert Einstein	Switzerland	1915
Hydrogen	Henry Cavendish	England	1766
Law of electric conduction	Georg Ohm	Germany	1827
Law of electromagnetism	Andre Ampere	France	1826
Law of falling bodies	Galileo	Italy	1590
Laws of gravitation & motion	Isaac Newton	England	1687
Laws of planetary motion	Johannes Kepler	Germany	1609-19
Magnesium	Sir Humphry Davy	England	1808
Neptune (Planet)	Johann Galle	Germany	1846
Neutron	James Chadwick	England	1932
Nickel	Axel Cronstedt	Sweden	1751
Nitrogen	Daniel Rutherford	England	1772
Oxygen	Joseph Priestly C.W. Scheele	England Sweden	1772
Ozone	Christian Schonbein	Germany	1839
Pluto (Planet)	Clyde Tombaugh	U.S.A	1930
Plutonium	G.T. Seaborg	U.S.A	1940
Proton	Ernest Rutherford	England	1919
Quantum Theory	Max Planck	Germany	1900
Radioactivity	Antoine Bacquerel	France	1896
Radium	Pierre & Marie Curie	France	1898
Discovery	Discoverer	Nationality	Year
Silicon	Jons Berzelius	Sweden	1824
Special theory of relativity	Albert Einstein	Switzerland	1905
Sun as centre of solar system	Copernicus	Poland	1543
Uranium	Martin Klaproth	Germany	1789
Uranus (Planet)	William Herschel	England	1781
X-rays	Wilhelm Roentgen	Germany	1895

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPLORATIONS/DISCOVERIES

Place	Explorer/Discoverer	Nationality	Year
America	Christopher Columbus	Italy	1492
Hawaii Islands (Sandwich Islands)	Captain James Cook	England	1778
Newfoundland	John Cabot	England	1497
New Zealand	Abel Janszoon Tasman	Holland	1642
North Pole	Robert Peary	USA	1909
Sea Route to India (via Cape of Good Hope)	Vasco da Gama	Portugal	1498
South Pole	Roald Amundsen	Norway	1911

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

Name of Instrument	Used for
Altimeter	measuring altitude
Ammeter	measuring strength of an electric current
Anemometer	measuring the velocity of wind
Audiometer	measuring level of hearing
Barometer	measuring atmospheric pressure
Callipers	measuring the internal and external diameters of tubes
Calorimeter	measuring quantity of heat
Compass	finding out direction
Dynamo	converting mechanical energy into electrical energy
Eudiometer	measuring volume changes during chemical reactions between gases
Galvanometer	detecting and determining the strength of small electric currents
Hydrometer	measuring specific gravity of a liquid
Hygrometer	measuring the humidity in the atmosphere
Lactometer	measuring the purity of milk
Manometer	measuring the gaseous pressure
Micrometer	measuring minute distances, angles, etc.
Microscope	seeing magnified view of very small objects
Periscope	with the help of this instrument an observer in a submarine can see what is going on the surface of the sea
Photometer	measuring intensity of light from distant stars
Pyrometer	measuring high temperatures
Radar	detecting and finding the presence and location of moving objects like aircraft, missile, etc.
Radiometer	measuring the emission of radiant energy
Rain Gauge	measuring the amount of rainfall

Name of Instrument	Used for
Seismograph	measuring and recording the intensity and origin of earthquake shocks
Sextant	measuring altitude and angular distances between two objects or heavenly bodies
Spectrometer	measuring the refractive indices
Spherometer	measuring the curvature of spherical objects/surface
Sphygmomanometer	measuring blood pressure
Stethoscope	ascertaining the condition of heart and lungs by listening to their function
Stroboscope	viewing objects that are moving rapidly with a periodic motion as if they were at rest
Tachometer	measuring the rate of revolution or angular speed of a revolving shaft
Telescope	viewing magnified images of distant objects
Theodolite	measuring the horizontal and vertical angles
Thermocouple	measuring the temperature inside furnaces and jet engines
Thermometer	measuring human body temperature
Thermostat	regulating constant temperature
Ultrasonoscope	measuring utrasonic sounds
Viscometer	measuring the viscosity of a fluid
Voltmeter	measuring potential difference between two points.

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

- **Ampere :** It is the unit of electric current. An ampere = flow of 6×10^{18} electrons per second.
- **Angstrom :** A unit of wavelength of light. An angstrom = 10^{-10} metre.
- **Bar :** A unit of pressure. one bar = 10^6 dynes per sq cm.
- **Barrel :** It is unit of liquid. One barrel = 31.5 gallon.
- **Calorie :** A unit of quantity of heat. It is equal to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 g of water through 1°C.
- **Coulomb :** SI unit of electric charge. Coulomb = 3×10^9 electrostatic units.
- **Decibel :** A unit for comparing levels of sound intensities. Decibel scale advances geometrically instead of arithmetically. 20 decibel is not twice ten decibels but ten times ten decibels.
- **Dyne :** A unit of force. It is the force that acting upon a mass of 1 g. Will impart it an acceleration of 1 cm per second.
- **Erg :** A unit of work or energy. It is the work done by a force of 1 dyne acting through a distance of 1 cm. 1 Erg = 10^{-7} joule.

- **Farad :** Capacity of a condenser is expressed in farad. Its practical unit is microfarad which is 10^{-6} farad.
- **Fathom :** It is a unit of marine depth. 1 fathom = 6 feet.
- **Hertz :** It is a unit of frequency defined as the frequency of a periodic phenomenon of which the periodic time is one second: equal to one cycle per second.
- **Hogshead :** It is a unit of measurement of wine. 1 hogshead = 2 barrels = 63 gallons
- **Horse Power :** It is a unit of power. Power of engines is generally expressed in horse power. 1 horse power = 745.7 watts or 33,000 foot pounds per minute
- **Joule :** A unit of work or energy. 1 joule = 10^7 ergs
- **Kelvin :** A unit of thermodynamic temperature defined as the fraction 1/273.16 of thermodynamic temperature of the triple point of water.
- **Knot :** A unit of speed in navigation. 1 knot = 1.15 miles per hour.
- **Light year :** An astronomical unit of measurement of distance. It is equal to distance travelled by light in one year at a speed of 2,99,792.5 km (1,86,281 miles) per second. 1 light year = An astronomical measure of distance; the distance travelled by light in one year: equal to 5.87848×10^{12} miles.
- **Ohm :** It is a unit of resistance of a conductor.
- **Pascal :** It is a unit of pressure equal to 1 newton per square metre.
- **Pressure :** The force per unit area acting on a surface is pressure. It is expressed in dyne per square centimetre. Atmospheric pressure is expressed in mili-bar.
- **Quintal :** It is a unit of weight. 1 quintal = 100 kilogram.
- **Specific Gravity :** It is the ratio of the mass of a given volume of a substance to the mass of an equal volume of water at a temperature of 4°C.
- **Specific Heat :** It is the gravity of heat required to raise the temperature of unit mass of a substance by one degree. It is expressed in joules per kg per kelvin.
- **Volt :** Unit of electric potential defined as the difference of potential between two points on a conducting wire carrying a constant current of one ampere when the power dissipated between these two points is one watt. 1 volt = 10^8 electromagnetic units
- **Watt :** A unit of power. 1 watt = 1 joule per second, 1000 watts = 1 kilowatt, 745.7 watts = 1 horse power.

HUMAN BODY

The human body is made up of a large number of cells. A group of similar cells performing a certain specific function is called a tissue. Cells and tissues carry on life activities of the human body as a whole.

Miscellaneous Facts About Human Body

1. Human body has about 65 per cent of water. 2. Human body has more than 206 bones. 3. The longest bone of the leg is called femur. A person with average height of 172 cm has about 48 cm femur. 4. The smallest bone in the body is stirrup bone in the ear. 5. The human body has a pair of lungs. The right lung is larger than the left. 6. Liver is the largest gland in human body. 7. There are some 639 skeletal muscles in the human body. 8. An adult brain weighs about 1400 grams or 3 pounds. 9. Small intestine is about 7 metres long and has a diameter of about 2.5 cm. 10. Proteins help growth of body. 11. Carbohydrates and fats provide energy to body. 12. The heart of a normal human adult beats some 70 to 75 times per minute. 13. The heart of a child beats much faster. 14. Heart beat increases during exercise, exertion and excitement. 15. A normal human adult body contains about 5.5 litres of blood. 16. The four groups of human blood are A, B, AB and O. 17. People having the blood of O group are universal donors. 18. The air we breathe in contains 21 per cent oxygen, and 0.03 per cent carbon dioxide. 19. The air we breathe out contains 16 per cent oxygen and 4.5 per cent carbon dioxide. 20. While relaxing one makes 15 or 16 respiratory movements per minute. Small baby breathes about 45 times per minute while a child of about six years breathes about 25 times per minute. 21. During a normal course of respiration a person draws in about 500 ml of air.

Major Organ Systems

1. Skeletal System; **2.** Digestive System; **3.** Circulatory System; **4.** Respiratory System; **5.** Reproductive System; and **6.** Nervous System.

BALANCED DIET

Essentials of balanced diet are: (*i*) **Protein:** Proteins occur in all tissues and are indispensable constituents of living cells. They are necessary for replacement and repair of damaged cells and tissues. (*ii*) **Carbohydrates:** Carbohydrates provide energy (in calories) to body. (*iii*) **Fats:** Fats produce energy, keep the body warm and provide taste to food. (*iv*) **Vitamins:** Vitamins are essential because they are co-factors for enzyme activity. Important vitamins are A, B, B

Complex, C and D. (*v*) **Mineral Salts:** Small quantities of calcium, phosphorus, iron, sodium, chlorine and iodine are necessary for our body. Of these calcium and phosphorous salts are important for building of our bones and teeth, while iron salts help to make red blood corpuscles. Milk is an almost perfect food.

Vitamins, their Sources and Diseases Caused Due to Lack of Vitamins

Vitamins	Main Sources	Diseases caused due to lack of vitamins
A	Fish liver oil, liver, milk, butter egg yolk	Night blindness
B B Complex	Whole cereal grains, yeast, milk, fresh green vegetables, gram	Beri Beri, dermatitis, diseases connected with inflammation of nerves, mental deficiency
C	Fresh green vegetables, lemon oranges, tomatoes, citrus fruits	Scurvy, joint pain, loss of blood from gums, dermatitis
D	Fish liver oil, liver, egg, milk, butter, ghee	Rickets
E	Fresh green vegetables, wheat, beans, maize	In pregnant females, abortion may occur
K	Fats, fish, meat, wheat	Slow clotting of blood (as a result bleeding does not stop easily)

Diseases and the Parts of Body they Affect

Disease	Part of body affected
AIDS	Immune system of body
Arthritis	Inflammation of joints
Asthma	Lungs
Cataract	Eyes
Conjunctivitis	Eyes
Diabetes	Pancreas
Diphtheria	Throat
Glaucoma	Eyes
Eczema	Skin
Goitre	Front of the neck (due to enlargement of thyroid gland)
Gout	Joints of bone
Jaundice	Liver
Meningitis	Brain or spinal cord
Pleurisy	Pleura (inflammation of)
Polio	motor neurons
Pneumonia	Lungs
Pyorrhoea	Sockets of teeth
Tuberculosis	Lungs
Typhoid	Intestine
Malaria	Spleen
Leukaemia	Blood
Rickets	Bones

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. At room temperature, all metals remain solid with the exception of:
A. gold B. mercury
C. aluminium D. lead

2. Which will fall faster in a vacuum?
A. a feather
B. a steel ball
C. a brick
D. all will fall at the same speed

3. During rusting, iron:
A. gains weight
B. loses weight
C. neither gains nor loses weight
D. sometimes gains weight and sometimes loses weight

4. On being heated, the density of metal:
A. decreases
B. increases
C. remains the same
D. none of these

5. Which one of the following is added to iron in the production of stainless steel?
A. copper
B. aluminium
C. chromium
D. all of three above

6. Which one of the following is caused due to deficiency of vitamin A?
A. scurvy
B. night blindness
C. beri-beri
D. cataract

7. Sound travels fastest in:
A. air B. vacuum
C. water D. steel

8. In summer, people feel comfortable in white clothes than in black clothes because:
A. they absorb radiant heat
B. they are poor conductor of heat
C. they cost less
D. all the three above

9. Of the following, the best source of proteins is:
A. fish B. beans
C. apples D. butter

10. Atmospheric pressure is measured by:
A. hydrometer B. sonometer
C. barometer D. manometer

11. Charles Darwin gave the:
A. theory of evolution
B. theory of relativity
C. quantum theory
D. none of the three above

12. While running downhill, a person:
A. leans forward
B. leans backward
C. walks straight
D. leans forward and backward alternately

13. The combustible material on the tip of a safety match stick is:

A. antimony sulphide
B. phophorus
C. manganese dioxide
D. sulphur

14. Which comet appears every 76 years?
A. Halley's
B. Holme's
C. Donati's
D. Alpha Centauri

15. How long does sun ray take to travel from the Sun to the Earth?
A. 400 seconds B. 450 seconds
C. 500 seconds D. 600 seconds

16. The best conductor of heat is:
A. gold B. silver
C. aluminium D. brass

17. Which one of the following is most ductile?
A. gold B. silver
C. copper D. tungston

18. Cellulose is obtained from:
A. rubber
B. wood and cotton
C. wood and rubber
D. raw silk and cotton

19. Seismograph is used in the study of:
A. moon B. earthquake
C. floods D. tides

20. Carbon dioxide is used in:
A. fire extinguisher
B. refrigerator
C. air-conditioner
D. water-heater

21. The treatment of rabies was discovered by:
A. Robert Koch
B. Joseph Lister
C. Louis Pasteur
D. Wilhem Roentgen

22. Citrus fruits are rich source of vitamin:
A. B B. A
C. K D. C

23. Which part of the body is affected by the disease called 'rickets'?
A. lungs B. skin
C. bones D. intenstines

24. How many litres of blood a normal human adult body contains?
A. 15 litres B. 10 litres
C. 5-6 litres D. 2 litres

25. Hertz is a unit of:
A. pressure B. distance
C. energy D. frequency

26. Decibel is a unit of intensity of:
A. light B. sound
C. heat D. force

27. Which one of the following gave the law of gravitation?
A. Galileo
B. J. Kepler
C. Darwin
D. Isaac Newton

28. Which instrument will you use for measuring the internal and external diameters of tubes?
A. callipers B. ammeter
C. pyrometer D. periscope

29. The universal donor is:
A. blood group O
B. blood group AB

C. blood group B
D. blood group A

30. Common variety of coal used in homes is:
A. bituminous
B. anthracite
C. lignite
D. all the three above

31. A radiator in electric room heater is most effective when:
A. it is painted black
B. it is painted white
C. it is well bright polished
D. it is circular

32. In cold countries glycerol is added to the water filled in radiators so as:
A. to reduce the specific heat of water
B. to bring down the freezing point of water
C. to reduce the viscosity of water
D. to improve lubrication

33. Lunar eclipse occurs when the:
A. moon comes in-between the sun and the earth
B. earth comes in-between the sun and the moon
C. sun comes in-between the earth and the moon
D. sun, the earth and the moon lie on a single straight line

34. The best conductor of electricity is:
A. distilled water
B. rain water
C. pure water
D. salt solution

35. Wooden handles are provided with kettle. It is so:
A. because it has become a fashion
B. because wood is bad conductor of heat
C. because it is very light
D. all the three above

36. To make up the deficiency of vitamin D, which one of the following may be taken in larger quantity in food?
A. eggs, milk and milk products
B. citrus fruits
C. meat
D. green fresh vegetables

37. Which one of the following instruments is used for measuring the altitudes and angular distances between the heavenly bodies?
A. telescope B. stroboscope
C. spherometer D. sextant

38. Polio is a disease connected with:
A. bones
B. motor neurons
C. thyroid glands
D. joints of bones

39. Deficiency of iodine in the diet causes:
A. glaucoma B. gout
C. goitre D. pneumonia

40. What provides weight to objects?
A. mass
B. gravity
C. earth
D. all the three above

41. The quantity of heat energy, a body contains, is measured by an instrument called:
A. stethoscope B. thermometer
C. calorimeter D. thermostat

42. The period of oscillation of a pendulum depends upon its:
A. speed B. length
C. vibrations D. weight

43. The largest planet in our solar system is:
A. Mercury B. Mars
C. Saturn D. Jupiter

44. The largest gland in human body is:
A. thyroid B. pituitary
C. liver D. pancreas

45. Ball bearings in machine:
A. increase speed
B. reduce friction
C. provide lubrication
D. all the three above

46. Malaria is a:
A. contagious disease
B. hereditary disease
C. deficiency disease
D. none of the three above

47. Milk is pasteurised:
A. to destroy micro-organisms
B. to prevent it from turning sour
C. to add more nutrients to it
D. to preserve lactose

48. The most abundant gas in the atmosphere is:
A. oxygen
B. nitrogen
C. hydrogen
D. carbon dioxide

49. Penicillin was discovered by:
A. William Harvey
B. Louis Pasteur
C. Alexander Fleming
D. Jonas Salk

50. Stars appear to twinkle. It is due to:
A. unsteadiness of the air in the atmosphere
B. their quick circular motion
C. movement of thin layers of clouds over them
D. none of these

ANSWERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	D	A	A	C	B	D	B	A	C
11	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**
A	B	B	A	C	B	A	B	B	A
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**
C	D	C	C	D	B	D	A	A	A
31	**32**	**33**	**34**	**35**	**36**	**37**	**38**	**39**	**40**
C	B	B	D	B	A	D	B	C	B
41	**42**	**43**	**44**	**45**	**46**	**47**	**48**	**49**	**50**
C	B	D	C	B	D	A	B	C	A

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Books and Authors

FOREIGN

Book	Author
Aesop's Fables	Aesop
Adventure of Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
Adventures of Sherlok Holmes	Arthur Conan Doyle
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carrol
Apple Cart	G.B.Shaw
Arabian Nights	Sir Richard Burton
As You Like It	William Shakespeare
A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
A Tale of Two Gardens	Octavio Paz
A Thousand Suns	Dominique Lapierre
August Coup	Mikhail S. Gorbachev
Ben Hur	Lewis Wallace
Candida	G.B. Shaw
Communist Manifesto	Karl Marx
Crime and Punishment	Dostovsky
Das Kapital	Karl Marx
David Copperfield	Charles Dickens
Divine Comedy	A. Dante
Doctor's Dilemma	G.B. Shaw
Don Quixote	Cervantes
Dr. Zhivago	Boris Pasternak
Famished Road	Ben Okri
Freedom From Fear	Aung San Suu Kyi
Good Earth	Pearl S. Buck
Gulistan Bostan	Sheikh Saadi

Book	Author
Gulliver's Travels	Jonathan Swift
Hamlet	William Shakespeare
Iliad	Homer
Inferno	A. Dante
In Memoriam	Lord Tennyson
Ivanhoe	Walter Scott
Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare
Lady Chatterley's Lover	D.H. Lawrence
Lajja	Taslima Nasreen
Les Miserable	Victor Hugo
Leviathan	Thomas Hobbes
Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela (autobiography)
Lolita	V. Nobokov
Lycidas	John Milton
Mein Kampf	Adolf Hitler
Merchant of Venice	William Shakespeare
Midnight's Children	Salman Rushdie
Moor's Last Sigh	Salman Rushdie
Mother	Maxim Gorky
Mother India	Katherine Mayo
Nana	Emile Zola
Ninteen Eighty Four	George Orwell
Odyssey	Homer
Origin of Species	Charles Darwin
Othello	William Shakespeare
Paradise Lost	John Milton
Paradise Regained	John Milton
Path to Power	Margaret Thatcher
Pickwick Papers	Charles Dickens
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
Razor's Edge	Somerset Maugham
Republic	Plato
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare
Round the World in Eighty Days	Jules Verne
Rubaiyat-i-Omar Khayyam	Edward Fitzgerald (Translator)
Shape of Things to Come	H.G. Wells
The Old Man and the Sea	Ernest Hemingway
The Satanic Verses	Salman Rushdie
The Social Contract	Rousseau
The Tempest	William Shakespeare

Book	Author
Time Machine	H.G. Wells
Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
Treasure Island	R.L. Stevenson
Twelfth Night	William Shakespeare
Uncle Tom's Cabin	H.B.Stowe
Unto This Last	John Ruskin
Utopia	Thomas More
Universe Around Us	James Jeans
Vicar of Wakefield	Oliver Goldsmith
War and Peace	Leo Tolstoy
Wealth of Nations	Adam Smith
Wonder That Was India	A.L. Basham
Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte

INDIAN

Book	Author
Abhigyan Shakuntalam	Kalidas
Ain-i-Akbari	Abul Fazal
Anand Math	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Arthashastra	Kautilya
A Suitable Boy	Vikram Seth
Bhagwat Gita	Ved Vyas
Chidambara	Sumitranandan Pant
Curtain Raisers	Natwar Singh
Devdas	Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
Diwan-i-Ghalib	Mirza Ghalib
Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
Eucalyptus	Murray Bail
Essays on Gita	Aurobindo Ghosh
Eternal India	Indira Gandhi
Faces of Everest	Major H.P.S. Ahluwalia
Ganadevata	Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya
Geet Govind	Jaya Dev
Geetanjali	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Glimpses of World History	Jawaharlal Nehru
Godaan	Prem Chand
God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy
Gora	Rabindranath Tagore
Gul-e-Nagma	Firaq Gorakhpuri

Book	Author
Gunahon ka Devta	Dharmveer Bharti
Harsh Charita	Bana Bhatta
Hindu View of Life	S. Radhakrishnan
Idols	Sunil Gavaskar
India Divided	Dr. Rajendra Prasad
The Judgement	Kuldip Nayyar
Juhi ki Kali	Surya Kant Tripathi 'Nirala'
Justice of Peace ke Aansu	Janardan Prasad Singh
Chand ka Munh Terha Hai	Muktibodh
Kadambari	Bana Bhatta
Kagaz Te Canvas	Amrita Pritam
Kamayani	Jai Shankar Prasad
Kapalkundala	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Kitni Nawon Mein Kitni Bar	S. H. Vatsyayan 'Agneya'
Kumar Sambhav	Kalidas
Mahabharata	Ved Vyas
Malgudi Days	R.K. Narayan
Manvini Bhavai	Pannalal Patel
Mati Matal	Gopi Nath Mohanty
Meghdoot	Kalidas
Meri Ekyavan Kavitain	Atal Behari Vajpayee
Meri Sansadiya Yatra	Atal Behari Vajpayee
Mritunjaya	B.K. Bhattacharya
Mudrarakshasa	Vishakhadatta
My Experiments with Truth	M.K. Gandhi
My Own Boswell	M. Hidayatullah
My Presidential Years	R. Venkataraman
Naivedyam	Balamani Amma
Nisheeth	Uma Shankar Joshi
'No, Sir'	P.G. Mavlankar
One Day Wonders	Sunil Gavaskar
Panchtantra	Vishnu Sharma
Passage to England	Nirad C. Chaudhuri
Pratham Pratishruti	Asha Poorna Devi
Prison Diary	Jaya Prakash Narayan
Priya Pravas	Ayodhya Singh Upadhyaya 'Harioudh'
Raghuvansha	Kalidas
Rajtarangini	Kalhana
Ramayana	Balmiki
Ramcharit Manas	Tulsidas
Rukh Te Rishi	Harbhajan Singh

Book	Author
Saket	Maithili Sharan Gupta
Satyarth Prakash	Swami Dayanand
Sur Sagar	Surdas
Shekhar: Ek Jeevani	S.H. Vatsyayan 'Ajneya'
The Guide	R.K. Narayan
The Insider	P.V. Narasimharao
The Post Office — *Dak Ghar*	Rabindra Nath Tagore
The God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy
The Interpreter of Maladies	Jhumpa Lahiri
Urvashi	Ram Dhari Singh 'Dinkar'
Yama	Mahadevi Verma
My Country : My Life (Autobiography)	L.K. Advani
Gandhi Before India	Ramchandra Guha
The Test of My Life	Yuvraj Singh
Twenty Years in a Decade	Shah Rukh Khan

IMPORTANT BOOKS WRITTEN IN JAIL

My Experiments with Truth	Mahatma Gandhi
Glimpses of World History, Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
Gita Rahasya	Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Pilgrim's Progress	John Bunyan
Bible (in German language)	Martin Luther
Les Miserables	Victor Hugo
Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela

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14

Persons — Past and Present

WORLD PERSONALITIES

- **Aesop (6th Century BC):** A traditional Greek author who wrote fables about animals with human traits.
- **Alfred, the Great (849-899):** Famous king of the West Saxons in the South of England. Noted for his zeal for learning and scholarship. He made a compilation of laws and did the translation of some important Latin works into English.
- **Alexander, the Great (356-323 BC):** King of Macedonia; one of the mightiest generals. Invaded India in 326 BC; died at Babylon on his way back to Greece.
- **Amundsen, Capt R (1872-1928):** A great Norwegian explorer—first to reach South Pole on December 14, 1911.
- **Arafat, Yasser (1929-2004):** (Mohammed Abdul-Raouf Arafat al-Oudwaal-Husseini) Palestinian President; Leader of PLO from 1968-2004; Shared Nobel peace Prize '94.
- **Archimedes (287-212 BC):** Famous Greek scientist, mathematician and inventor. He invented a number of machines and discovered many laws, the most important among which are laws of floating bodies and value of pie.
- **Aristotle (384-322 BC):** A Greek Philosopher and political thinker, a tutor to Alexander the Great, author of Poetics, Politics and Ethics.
- **Armstrong, Neil (1930-2012):** A US astronaut and the first human being to set his foot on the moon on July 20, 1969.
- **Ataturk, Kemal (1881-1938):** The first President of the modern Turkish State (1923-38) he helped to found. He repulsed the Greek invasion of

Anatolia (1922) exiled the Sultan, proclaimed a republic and modernized Turkey's economy.

- **Attlee, Clement Richard (1883-1967):** British Statesman and Great Britain's Prime Minister (1945-51). It was during his tenure that India, Ceylon and Burma were granted independence.
- **Bach, Johann Sebastian (1685-1750):** Founder of modern music was born in Germany. He was the greatest musical genius of all time. He perfected hundreds of instrumental and vocal compositions.
- **Baden Powell (1857-1941):** He founded the Boy Scouts in 1908. It was so popular that Scouts became a world-wide organisation. Also in 1910 he and his sister founded the Girl Guides (Girl Scouts).
- **Beethoven, Ludwig Van (1770-1827):** German Composer considered as one of the world's greatest composers and musicians. He wrote many memorable symphonies: Appassionata (Sonata), Fidelio (Opera), Eroica.
- **Begin, Menachem (1904-1992):** Former PM of Israel, a giant of the reborn Jewish State, who signed the historic Camp David peace accord with Egypt and shared the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize with Egypt's President Anwar Sadat.
- **Bismark, Prince Otto (1815-1898):** Great German Statesman, was called the 'Man of Blood and Iron', and 'Iron Chancellor'; unified Germany which was merely a number of states around Prussia and Austria. The First chancellor of unified Germany. Quarelled with William II, the new Emperor, and resigned in 1890.
- **Braille, Louis (1809-1852):** French teacher of the blind; and inventor of the dot system of writing and reading for the blind, now known as Braille system.
- **Brandt, Willy (1913-1992):** The former West German Chancellor. Died at the age of 78 after a long battle with cancer. He carried out *Ostpolitik,* a policy to have normal relations with eastern Europe. He joined the Social Democrat Party (SDP) at the age of 16 in the turbulent final years of the doomed Weimer Republic, engineered the detente between East & West Germany, for which he was acclaimed Nobel Peace laureate in 1971.
- **Cabot, John (1455-1498):** An Italian born navigator who discovered the coast of North America, the New Foundland in 1497.
- **Caesar, Julius (102-44 BC):** Roman General and Statesman and the greatest among the conquerers of the world; invaded Britain twice; was assassinated by Brutus, a noble friend of his.

- **Castro, Fidel (1927-2016):** A revolutionary leader of Cuba who overthrew the Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista and became President of the country in 1959. He brought about many social and economic reforms. He was President till January, 2008.
- **Caxton, William (1422-1491):** The English printer to have set-up the first English printing press in London.
- **Chaplin, Charlie (Sir Charles Spencer) (1889-1977):** Born in London, a reputed king of comedians, settled in Switzerland, recipient of Lenin Peace Prize in 1954. His leading films were the Gold Rush, Limelight, Modern Times, The Great Dictator, City Lights etc.
- **Charlemagne (742-814):** Charlemagne or Charles the Great, was king of the Franks and founder of the Holy Roman Empire. He was a patron of scholars and a supporter of learning.
- **Charles De-Gaulle (1890-1970):** Deadly opponent of Communist bloc, provisional President when France was made free; became Prime Minister in 1958, Constitution was redrafted and passed, elected President of 5th Republic of France, strongest man of France after Napoleon but in 1969 he was succeeded by Pompidou as President, died in October 1970. He wrote 'The Army of the Future.'
- **Chou-En-Lai (1898-1976):** Chinese Revolutionary Statesman, administrator & diplomat and Prime Minister of China from 1942 till death. He visited India, signed Panchshila Treaty with Nehru, but his country invaded India in 1962 when he was PM.
- **Churchill, Winston (1874-1965):** A British Statesman, Prime Minister, soldier and author. He was member of Parliament from 1900-1965. Saved England during World War II when he was Prime Minister and Minister of Defence 1940-45. Nobel Prize winner for literature in 1953. Author of the 'Gathering Storm.'
- **Clive, Robert (1725-1774):** Twice governor of Bengal and the real founder of the British rule in India. He was a great soldier and his greatest victory was at Plassey, near Calcutta.
- **Columbus, Christopher (1451-1506):** Italian navigator and explorer who discovered America in 1492.
- **Confucius or K'ung Fu-tse (551-478 BC):** A Chinese saint and philosopher; founded the great religion of Confucianism. He appealed to reason and taught love and respect of one's fellows.
- **Cook, James (1728-1779):** An English sailor and explorer who undertook many sea voyages and discovered Sandwich Islands (Hawaiian).

- **Copernicus, Nicolaus (1473-1543):** A Polish astronomer, he was the first person to put forth evidence that the earth and other planets revolve around the sun (1543).
- **Cuellar, Javier Perez de (1920----):** The Peruvian diplomat and recipient of Nehru Award for International Understanding 1987, who had been Secretary General of the UN for 10 years, relinquished his office on January 1, 1992.
- **Curie, Marie (1867-1934):** Polish born French physicist who with her husband Pierre Curie discovered radioactivity and the Curies (the wife and the husband) shared the 1903 Nobel Prize for Physics. In 1911 Madam Curie received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discovery of radium.
- **Darwin, Charles Robert (1809-1882):** A renowned experimental biologist and scientist, changed the entire concept of human origin. He wrote, 'Origin of Species' in 1859 and 'Descent of Man' in 1871; in the former he explained his theory of Natural Selection or Evolution.
- **Disney, Walter Elias (1901-1966):** American film cartoonist, creator of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck.
- **Edison, Thomas Alva (1847-1931):** American inventor of the transmitter and receiver for the telegraph system, the phonograph and the incandescent lamp.
- **Eiffel, Alexander Gustave (1832-1923):** French engineer who built Eiffel Tower.
- **Einstein, Albert (1879-1955):** World famous German-American physicist, born in Germany but driven by Nazis in 1933; propounder of the famous 'Theory of Relativity.' Won Nobel Prize in 1921 for Physics for his investigations of the photoelectric effect.
- **Eliot, T S (1888-1965):** American-born leading lyric poet of England in the 20th century. Recipient of Nobel Prize for Literature in 1948. His famous works are 'Waste Land', 'Confidential Clerk', 'The Cocktail Party', 'Four Quarters' etc.
- **Euclid (About 300 BC):** A Greek mathematician, who is called the Father of Geometry.
- **Fahrenheit Gabriel Daniel (1686-1736):** German physicist who introduced the mercury thermometer.
- **Firdausi (940-1020):** A great Persian poet and author of the 'Shah Namah', Persia's national epic.
- **Fleming, Sir Alexander (1881-1955):** Scottish bacteriologist and discoverer of penicillin (1928).

- **Franklin, Benjamin (1706-1790):** American scientist who invented lightening conductor.
- **Freud, Sigmund (1856-1939):** Born of Jewish parents, migrated to London in 1938 when Nazis occupied Vienna. His chief works include, 'The Psycho-pathology of everyday Life', 'The Interpretation of Dreams.'
- **Froebel, Friedrich (1782-1852):** A German educator noted as the founder of the Kindergarten system of education.
- **Gagarin, Yuri (1934-1968):** The first Russian Cosmonaut, who orbited the earth in Vostok-I on April 12, 1961 safely. Honoured with the highest Soviet award, died in an aircrash on March 25, 1968.
- **Galileo, Galilei (1564-1642):** Italian scientist and astronomer. He improved the telescope; first man to see the satellites of Jupiter.
- **Gama, Vasco-Da (1469-1524):** The famous Portuguese sailor who discovered the sea-route to India via Cape of Good Hope in 1498 AD.
- **Garibaldi, Giuseppe (1807-1882):** Italian patriot and general who was one of the makers of modern Italy.
- **Ghali, Boutros (1922-2016):** Former Deputy PM of Egypt was the Secretary General of the UN from 1992-96.
- **Goldsmith, Oliver (1730-1774):** An Anglo-Irish man of letters whose best known works are 'The Vicar of Wakefield', 'She Stoops to Conquer' and 'The Deserted Village.'
- **Gorbachev, Mikhail (1931----):** Recipient of 1990 Nobel Peace Prize. The first and the last Executive President of the now disintegrated USSR, resigned on December 25, 1991. One of the pivotal leaders of the 20th century, he helped end cold war and became a victim of his reforms.
- **Gutenberg, Johann (1400-1468):** German inventor, who invented printing with movable types cast in moulds.
- **Hammarskjold, Dag, M (1905-1961):** A Swedish diplomat, Secretary General of UNO (1953-1961), played an important role in bringing East and West closer; while on a peace mission on Congo, he died in a plane-crash in Sept 1961. He was honoured with Nobel Peace Prize posthumously in 1961.
- **Hannes Alfven (1908-1995):** Great Swedish scientist, shared the Nobel Prize for Physics 1970, Hannes Alfven rejected the 'Big Bang' theory and pro-pounded the view that in the beginning was plasma.
- **Herodotus (485-425 BC):** The first of the ancient Greek historians, called the 'father of history'.

- **Hill, Sir Rowland (1795-1879):** Originator of the penny pound system.
- **Hillary, Sir Edmund Percival (1919-2008):** A New Zealand mountaineer, who along with Tenzing Norgay, a sherpa from Nepal, became the first man to reach the top of the Mount Everest in 1953.
- **Hippocrates (430 BC):** Greek physician, called the 'father of medicine'.
- **Hirohito (1901-1989):** Emperor of Japan and an able Statesman who guided the destiny of his country for 62 years including the Second World War.
- **Hitler, Adolf (1889-1945):** Leader of the Nazi Party, rose to be the dictator, founder and leader of the National Socialism in Germany. He started the World War II in 1939, and dreamt of world conquest but his forces were driven back by the Allied Forces, he took poison and died. Author of 'Mein Kampf' (My Struggle).
- **Ho-Chi-Minh (1890-1969):** North Vietnamese revolutionary leader and President of North Vietnam (1954-69), advocate of Vietnamese unification. He became a legend in his life time.
- **Homer:** Great Epic poet of Greece who wrote 'The Iliad' and 'The Odyssey.' Believed to have lived in 900 BC.
- **Hume, Allan Octavian (1829-1912):** A British who entered the Indian Civil Service in 1849. Founder of the Indian National Congress in 1885.
- **Ibn Battuta (1304-1377):** The greatest Arab traveller who spent about 25 years travelling in Africa, Middle East, Persia, India and the Far East. He visited India during the reign of Sultan Mohammad-bin-Tuglak (1325-51).
- **Jefferson, Thomas (1743-1826):** He wrote most of the Declaration of Independence and was the third President of the US.
- **Jenner, Edward (1749-1823):** An English Physician, who discovered vaccination to produce immunity from small pox.
- **Joan of Arc (1412-1431):** Called 'Maid of Orleans', she inspired the French to drive the English out of Orleans. She was burnt alive as a heretic.
- **Keller, Helen Adams (1880-1968):** A deaf and blind American lady who dedicated her whole life to the cause of the handicapped. 'The Story of My Life' is her famous autobiography.
- **Kennedy, John F (1917-1963):** The most popular and youngest 35th President of the USA, (1961-63), established better relations with Russia, sponsored Civil Rights Bill, signed partial nuclear Test Ban Treaty. He was assassinated on November 22, 1963.

- **Kepler, Johannes (1571-1630):** German astronomer who gave the laws of planetary motion.
- **Khrushchev, Nikita (1894-1971):** Famous Soviet Statesman who gained power after the death of Stalin (1953) as the head of the state; under him Russia became less of a police state and he followed the policy of co-existence with the West.
- **King, Dr Martin Luther Jr. (1929-1968):** American Negro leader of non-violence; called American Gandhi—fought for the Civil Rights, recipient of Nobel Prize for Peace in 1964 and was assassinated by a white on April 4, 1968.
- **Lao Tzu (c 604-518 BC):** Chinese Philosopher, founded Taoism—an ancient religion. He was the author of 'Tao-te-ching', one of the sacred books of China.
- **Laski, Harold (1893-1950):** A distinguished economist and writer. He was British political scientist, a prominent member of the Labour Party; author of 'A Grammar of Politics', 'Democracy in Crisis' etc.
- **Lenin, Vladimir Ilyich (1870-1924):** Russian revolutionary, and the leader of Russian Revolution in 1917; made the country free from the rule of Czars, assumed dictatorial powers from 1917 to 1924.
- **Lesseps, Ferdinand (1805-1894):** French Engineer who built the Suez Canal in 1869.
- **Lincoln, Abraham (1809-1865):** Famous American Statesman and the 16th President of USA. A great advocate of democracy; he abolished slavery and was assasinated in 1865.
- **Louis XVI (1754-1793):** French emperor during whose regime French Revolution started in 1789. Louis attempted to escape but was caught and guillotined in 1793.
- **Luther, Martin (1483-1546):** Leader of the Reformation in Germany and also the founder of the Lutherian Church.
- **Machiavelli, Niccolo (1469-1527):** A famous Italian Statesman and political theorist. His master work is 'The Prince.'
- **Magellan, Ferdinand (1480-1521):** Portuguese navigator, who completed the first voyage around the world and discovered the Strait of Magellan (1520).
- **Mandela, Nelson R (1918–2013):** Recipient of Nobel Peace Prize 1993, Bharat Ratna, 1990 and the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding 1979; he became the first democratically elected black President of the Republic of South Africa on May 10, 1994. He was set free in February 1990 after spending long 27 years in jail.

- **Mao Tse-Tung (1893-1976):** Chairman and founder of the Communist Party of the Chinese People's Republic. He was opposed to disarmament and advocated war. He started Chinese Cultural Revolution in 1967. Author of "Great Leap Forward" and "Communes."
- **Marconi Guglielmo (1874-1937):** Italian inventor who developed the use of radio waves for communication.
- **Marx, Karl (1818-1883):** German philosopher and Economist and socialist, founder of Modern Communist Theory, advocated the cause of the Labour classes, author of 'Das Capital' and 'Communist Manifesto.' Communism is based on his teachings.
- **Menuhin, Yehudi (1916-1999):** World famous violinist and composer, born in New York, visited India in 1952 and 1964. He was awarded Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1968.
- **Michelangelo (1475-1564):** Celebrated Italian painter and sculptor. One of the greatest masters of the Italian Renaissance.
- **Mitterand, Francois (1916-96):** French socialist and President of Fifth Republic.
- **Mohammed Sahib (570-632):** An Arabian prophet and founder of Islam. He was born in Mecca, and the Koran, Islam's sacred book, contains his teachings.
- **Montessori, Maria (1870-1952):** Italian educationist, known for her system of Education for children called Montessori Method. She was the first woman to take a medical degree from Rome University.
- **Mother Teresa (1910-1997):** The 87-year-old Albanian born nun, who has dedicated herself to the service of the destitutes in Kolkata. She was honoured with Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and Bharat Ratna in 1980.
- **Mozart, W Amadeus (1756-1791):** An Austrian composer and one of the outstanding masters of the classical period composers.
- **Mussolini, Benito (1883-1945):** Founder of the Fascist Party, dictator of Italy (1935-43), was defeated in 1943 in the World War II, shot dead by his partisans in 1945.
- **Myrdal, Gunnar (1898-1987):** A Swedish economist and sociologist and author of 'An American Dilemma' was co-recipient of the 1974 Nobel Prize for Economics and Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1981.
- **Napier, John (1550-1617):** Scottish mathematician who invented logarithms.
- **Napoleon I, Bonaparte (1769-1821):** Born in Corsica, overthrew French government in 1799 and established his dictatorship. A

plebiscite confirmed his life-long consulship and another in 1804 gave him the title of 'Emperor'. In 1815 was defeated by the Duke of Wellington, exiled to St Helena where he died.

- **Nasser, Col Gamal Abdel (1918-70):** President of Egypt (1956-70), one of the founders of non-alignment, a great leader of the Arab World. Nationalised Suez Canal in 1956, constructed Aswan Dam with Russian help, defeated at the hand of Israel in 1967, wrote 'Egyptian Liberation', died in September 1970.
- **Nero (37-68 AD):** The infamous Roman emperor whose cruelty and instability led to a revolt. Nero committed suicide.
- **Newton, Sir Isaac (1642-1726):** The most famous physicist and mathematician of modern times and author of 'The Theory of Gravitation'.
- **Nightingale, Florence (1820-1910):** Famous hospital reformer, worked as nurse, served the British soldiers in the Crimean War of 1854; known as the Lady with the Lamp.
- **Nobel, Alfred Bernhard (1833-1896):** Swedish inventor of dynamite. He left his fortune for establishment of Nobel Foundation and this fund is used to award Nobel Prizes since 1901.
- **Nostradamus or Michel De Notre Dame (1503-1566):** French astrologer known for prophecies.
- **Nyerere, Julius Kambarage (1922—):** He led Tanganyika to independence in 1961 and united it with Zanzibar forming Tanzania (1964) to become its first President. A leader of the Non-Alignment Movement he was honoured with the Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1973.
- **Paine, Thomas (1737-1809):** An English born writer and radical. His famous works are 'The Rights of Man' and 'The Age of Man'.
- **Peary, Robert Edwin (1856-1920):** US Arctic explorer who discovered the North Pole in 1909.
- **Picasso, Pablo Ruiz (1881-1973):** Spanish painter, founded Cubist School of Painting.
- **Pasteur, Louis (1822-95):** A famous French chemist, known for pasteurisation, made researches on fermentation that led to the development of bacteriology, and those on infectious diseases led to the growth of the science of immunology; made vaccinations against hydrophobia and cholera etc.
- **Pitman, Sir Issac (1813-1897):** Inventor of a system of phonographic shorthand.

- **Plato (427-347 BC):** A pupil of Socrates and a great philosopher of the world. His famous works are 'Republic' and 'Laws'.
- **Pythagoras (582-500 BC):** A great Greek philosopher and mathematician, specially interested in astronomy and geometry. He propounded the theory that the basis of the universe is number and originated the idea of hormony of the spheres (planets).
- **Quisling, Vidkun Abraham (1887-1945):** A Norwegian who sided with German invaders of Norway in 1940. After the collapse of Germany, Quisling was convicted of treason and shot dead. His name has become synonymous with traitor.
- **Rockfeller, J D (1839-1937):** Born of poor parents in New York but rose to the world's richest man of his times; a great philanthropist, oil king of USA; founded Rockfeller Foundation in 1913.
- **Rommel, Field Marshall (1891-1944):** The ablest German General, fought war in North Africa and West Europe; called Desert Fox. He committed suicide.
- **Roosevelt, Franklin Delano (1882-1945):** First American to become President twice; until his death very popular and successful Statesman; founder member of UNO; met the economic crisis 1933 with the policy of New Deal.
- **Ross, Ronald (1857-1932):** British physician who discovered the malaria parasite.
- **Rousseau, Jean Jacques (1717-1778):** Swiss born French writer, philosopher and political theorist and author of 'The Social Contract'.
- **Russel, Bertrand (1872-1970):** A great English philosopher, essayist and mathematician, visited many countries, opposed to arms race and nuclear testing, he was called a spoilt genius due to his critical works; won Nobel Prize for Literature in 1950. Wrote 'Marriage and Morals', 'History of Western Philosophy,' etc.
- **Salk, Jonas (1915-1995):** Scientist who developed a successful vaccine against polio.
- **Sartre, Jean Paul (1905-1980):** French philosopher, novelist and playwright, famous exponent of existentialism. In 1964 he refused the Nobel Prize for literature.
- **Shakespeare, William (1564-1616):** The most famous English poet and dramatist and one of the giants of the world literature. Some of his plays are— 'Hamlet', 'Othalo', 'Henry VI'.
- **Shaw, George Bernard (1856-1950):** An Irish dramatist and critic whose major writings are—'Pygmalion' and 'St Joan'. He was awarded the 1925 Nobel Prize in literature.

- **Socrates (469-399 BC):** An eminent scholar and distinguished thinker of Greece; charged for corrupting the youth of the country; forced to die by taking hemlock; Plato was his disciple. He is said to be the originator of idealistic philosophy.
- **Stalin, Joseph V (1879-1953):** Outstanding Statesman of USSR after Lenin; took leading part in 1917 Russian revolution. Introduced Five-Year Plans in 1929 to build a new modern Russia; ousted Trotsky who was opposing his plan of socialistic pattern and industrialisation.
- **Stephenson, George (1781-1848):** English engineer and inventor of locomotive engine.
- **Sun Yat Sen (1867-1925):** Provisional President of the Chinese Republic; founded the Chinese Nationalist Party called Kuomintang in 1894, consolidated China, played active role in the Revolution of 1911.
- **Thant, U (1909-1974):** Born in Burma, Buddhist by religion, an outstanding Statesman, Secretary General of UNO from 1961-1971, handled very tact-fully the international problems like the Cuba issue etc; recipient of Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1965.
- **Tito, Marshall (Josip Broz) (1892-1980):** A Great dominating leader and life President of Yugoslavia from 1953*. Visited India in 1954 and approved *Panchshila,* a pillar of the non-aligned movement; hosted 1961 Belgrade conference; won 1971 Nehru Award for International Understanding. He opposed Soviet domination in Eastern Europe. Died on May 4, 1980 just three days before his 88th birthday.
- **Tolstoy, Count Leo (1828-1910):** Russian Saint, holds high honour for his literary views based on morality. Author of 'War and Peace', 'Anna Karenina', 'Resurrection' etc.
- **Turgenev, Ivan Sergeyevich (1818-1883):** A great Russian writer who wrote of peasant and country life. His greatest novel is 'Fathers and Sons'.
- **Vinci, Leonardo Da (1452-1519):** Italian sculptor, painter, architect, musician, engineer and scientist. He was the supreme example of renaissance. His famous paintings are 'Monalisa', 'Last Supper' etc.
- **Virgil (70-19 BC):** Roman epic poet and author of 'The Aeneid'.
- **Voltaire, F M (1694-1778):** French philosopher and writer, a social reformer too, waged war against religious bigotry, author of 'Candide', 'Essay on Manners', 'Irene', etc.
- **Washington, George (1732-1799):** First President of USA, called Father of the Nation, led the American war of Independence (1775-83).

* In 1946 he was PM and in 1953 he became President under the new constitution.

- **Wilson, Woodrow (1856-1924):** President of USA (1913-21) put his 14 points for peace after world war I; founder of the League of Nations; he was awarded Nobel Prize for Peace in 1919.
- **Zoroaster (6th century BC):** Persian founder of the Parsee religion.

INDIAN PERSONALITIES

- **Abul Fazal (1551-1602):** One of the nine jewels in Akbar's court and a great scholar of Persian. He wrote 'Ain-e-Akbari'.
- **Acharya, J B Kriplani (1888-1982):** Staunch Gandhian and leading freedom fighter; became President of Indian National Congress 1946-47, left Congress in 1951, formed a new party PSP headed by himself till Dec 1954; was elected as Member of Parliament in 1967; wrote a book 'Gandhian Way and a Non-violent Revolution'. He was considered the 'Bhisham Pitamah' of Indian Politics.
- **Akbar (1542-1605):** A great Mughal emperor in India and famous for his reforms in the land revenue administration. He founded a new religion Din-e-Ilahi.
- **Akhtar, Begum (1910-1974):** Known as 'Ghazal Queen of India.' Akhtar Begum died in October 1974. She was honoured with Padma Bhushan in 1975 posthumously.
- **Ambedkar, Dr B R (1891-1956):** A prominent nationalist leader, a famous constitutionalist and a crusader for social justice. As Chairman of the Drafting Committee, he played a leading part in framing of the Indian Constitution. He was Law Minister from (1947-1951). Author of 'Castes of India', 'Thoughts on Pakistan', etc. He was honoured with 'Bharat Ratna' (posthumously) in 1990.
- **Azad, Chandra Shekhar (1906-1931):** Indian revolutionary, died fighting a lone battle with police.
- **Azad, Maulana Abul Kalam (1888-1958):** Indian Congress politician born at Mecca and educated at Al Azhar University, Cairo; he became prominent during Civil Disobedience Movement; founded and edited nationalist papers; was interned and imprisoned several times; was Congress President when India became independent; Education Minister of India (1947-58). He was posthumously honoured with Bharat Ratna in 1992.
- **Babar (1483-1530):** As a soldier of fortune, he founded the Mughal dynasty in India in 1526 when he won the battle of Panipat.

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- **Banabhatta (606-647):** A famous Sanskrit poet in the court of Emperor Harshvardhan. His famous works are 'Kadambari' and 'Harsh Charit'.
- **Banerjee, Surendranath (1848-1925):** A great Indian patriot and a powerful leader of the anti-partition movement in Bengal during the British rule. He was elected President of the Indian National Congress (1895).
- **Banerjee, Woomesh Chandra (1844-1906):** He was the first President of the Indian National Congress (1885).
- **Besant, Mrs Annie (1847-1933):** First lady President of Indian National Congress in 1917; founder of the Theosophical Society; took active part in the Home Rule Movement.
- **Bhabha, Dr Homi Jehangir (1909-66):** Eminent Indian scientist; first Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Former Director of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research; pace setter of nuclear India; died in a plane crash on January 24, 1966. Published papers on cosmic rays and quantum theory. Attended 'Atom for Peace' conference at Geneva, 1955.
- **Bhagat Singh (1909-1931):** A great revolutionary and patriot. He dropped a bomb in the Central Assembly in 1929. He was tried and hanged in 1931.
- **Bharati, Subramania (1881-1921):** A philosopher, patriot and journalist and a powerful poet of Tamil, whose birth-centenary year was observed in 1981.
- **Bhaskaracharya:** The author of famous 'Sidhanta Shiromani', Bhaskaracharya was a great Indian mathematician and astronomer of the 12th century.
- **Bhatnagar, S S (1894-1955):** A prominent scientist; was director general of Indian Council of Scientific Research, established a chain of science laboratories in India.
- **Bhatta, Arya (476-520):** A great Indian mathematician and astronomer of the Gupta Age. He pointed out the importance of zero and laid foundations of Algebra. He propounded the theory of rotation of the earth. After his name India's first satellite was launched on April 19, 1975.
- **Bhatt, Kumaril:** He was a great Hindu saint in the 8th century.
- **Bhave, Acharya Vinoba (1895-1982):** Distinguished Scholar of Gandhian Philosophy, active participation in Civil Disobedience Movements, Sarvodaya leader. He started *Bhoodan*, *Shramdan* and *Gramdan* movements for the cause of needy and landless, recipient of

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Magsaysay Award and Bharat Ratna (posthumously) (1983). He lived in 'Pavnar Ashram'.

- **Bose, J C (1858-1937):** An eminent Indian physicist. Founder of Bose Research Institute, Kolkata; invented crescograph for measuring plant growth.
- **Bose, Subhash Chandra (1897-1945):** Formidable nationalist leader and a great patriot, founder of Azad Hind Fouj; known as Netaji. He was elected President of Indian National Congress (1939); was put under house arrest in 1941, but escaped, went to Germany via Afghanistan and Turkey. He reached Japan and Singapore, organised Indian National Army, but he is reported to have died in an air crash in 1945. He was posthumously honoured with Bharat Ratna in 1992.
- **Buddha, Gautam (563-483 BC):** Born at Lumbini as a prince to Shuddodhana, the king of Kapilavastu, Gautam Buddha was the founder of Buddhism. He attained enlightenment under a *Bodhi* tree in Bodh Gaya in Bihar.
- **Chaitanya (1445-1533):** Born at Nadia in Bengal and a pioneer of Bhakti movement, Chaitanya was a devotee of Lord Krishna.
- **Chand, Dhyan (1905-79):** Indian hockey wizard, won Olympic gold 1928, 1932 and 1936.
- **Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya) (375-413):** A great conqueror and a great emperor whose period is known as the golden period of Hindu India. Chinese pilgrim Fahien visited India during his reign.
- **Chatterjee, Bankim Chandra (1838-1894):** Distinguished Bengali novelist and author of 'Anand Math' and composer of '*Bande Mataram*.'
- **Chauhan, Prithviraj:** A great Rajput ruler of Delhi, who defeated Mohammed Ghori in 1191 but lost to him in 1192 and was killed.
- **Das, Chitaranjan (1870-1925):** A famous advocate, journalist and freedom fighter, Chitaranjan Das worked with Lala Lajpat Rai and Motilal Nehru. He was one of the founders of the Swaraj Party.
- **Dadabhai Naoroji (1825-1911):** A great nationalist of India; President of Indian National Congress (1886, 1893, 1906) and the first Indian to become a Member of the British House of Commons; popularly known as 'Grand Old Man of India.'
- **Daya Nand Saraswati (1824-83):** Founder of Arya Samaj; Great Hindu reformer of the 19th century. Stressed the need to wipe out untouchability, purdah-pratha and other religious superstitions prevalent in the then Hindu Society.

- **Desai, Morarji R. (1896-1995):** India's tallest freedom fighter, staunch Gandhian, seniormost politician and the Prime Minister of India (Nov. 77--July 79). He died on April 10, 1995.
- **Dhanvantri:** A renowned physician in the reign of Chandragupta Vikramaditya in the 4th century.
- **Gandhi, M K (1869-1948):** The greatest Indian personality after Buddha; known as the 'Father of the Nation'; Born at Porbander (Kathiawar) on Oct 2; studied Law in England, led Satyagraha movement in South Africa, started non-cooperation movement and civil disobedience movement, preached truth and non-violence; was arrested several times in the struggle for freedom; fought for Hindu-Muslim Unity, and abolition of untouchability; widely respected in the entire world; author of 'My Experiments with Truth'. He was shot dead by Nathu Ram Godse on January 30, 1948.
- **Gandhi, Rajiv (1944-1991):** The eldest son of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the first woman Prime Minister of India and the grand-son of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. Became the youngest Prime Minister of the country after the death of his mother in 1984. In 1989 elections he lost the power. Assassinated at Perambudur near Chennai on May 21, 1991 during mid-term elections campaign. Awarded 'Bharat Ratna' posthumously in 1991.
- **Gandhi, Smt Indira (1917-1984):** Daughter of late Pt Jawaharlal Nehru; educated at Oxford. An active worker of Congress, she became President of Congress in 1959, Minister of Information and Broadcasting (1964-65), and Prime Minister of India (Jan 24, 1966 to March 23, 1977); honoured with Bharat Ratna in 1971; declared Emergency on June 26, 1975 and was defeated in 1977 General Elections but in the mid-term poll January 1980, Mrs Gandhi again came to power as PM and remained in that position till her assassination in October 1984.
- **Ghalib, Mirza Asadullah Khan (1796-1868):** A renowned Urdu poet. Compilation of his poems—Diwan-e-Ghalib.
- **Ghori, Mohammad:** He become the founder of the Muslim rule in India in 1192 when he defeated Prithviraj Chauhan in the battle of Tarain.
- **Ghosh, Aurobindo (1872-1950):** A revolutionary philosopher and a yogi, Aurobindo founded the famous Pondicherry Ashram. His famous works are—Divine Life and Essays on Gita.
- **Giri, V V (1894-1980):** A great labour leader and the fourth President of India, Mr Giri was honoured with Bharat Ratna in 1975.

- **Gokhale, G K (1866-1915):** A Great nationalist and patriot; political guru of Mahatma Gandhi; founded the Servants of India Society. Gokhale was the greatest parliamentarian known to India. He was President of Indian National Congress in 1905.
- **Harshvardhana:** The last great Hindu ruler of northern India; he embraced Buddhism. Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang visited India during his reign.
- **Hussain, Dr Zakir (1897-1969):** A great educationist, statesman and philosopher, Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (1948-56), great exponent and author of Basic Education, proposed Wardha scheme of education, Vice-President of India (1962-67) and elected President of India (1967-69), died on May 3, 1969; received Bharat Ratna in 1963.
- **Jaya Prakash Narain (1901-79):** A great revolutionary socialist leader, a true Gandhian in thoughts and actions he was General Secretary of the Congress (1930-32); formed Congress Socialist Party. This great Sarvodaya leader, was a member of the peace mission for conducting talks with rebel Nagas; persuaded dacoits of Chambal ravines to surrender. He gave a call for the Total Revolution; worked as an inspiring force in the formation of Janata Party in 1977.
- **Jayadeva (12th century):** Famous poet; his work is Gita Govinda.
- **Jinnah, Mohemmed Ali (1876-1948):** A prominent Muslim leader and zealous advocate of two-nation theory. He was the first Governor-General of Pakistan. He was for many years, President of All India Muslim League.
- **Kabir:** An Indian saint and poet of Nirguna Bhakti in the fourteenth century. He believed in the unity of God. Beejak and Sakhi are his famous collection of poems.
- **Kalhana:** Author of 'Rajatarangini'; a great historian of Kashmir in the 11th century.
- **Kalidasa:** A renowned Sanskrit poet and dramatist of the 4th century. His works include Raghuvansha, Shakuntala, Kumar Sambhava, Meghduta. He is called the Shakespeare of India. He lived during the reign of Vikramaditya.
- **Kanishka (Ist C. AD):** A great Kushan ruler of India, who patronised Buddhism and was promoter of art and literature.
- **Karve, D.K. (1858-1962):** Indian social worker who championed the cause of widow marriage and women's education.

- **Kautilya (Chanakya):** Vishnugupta Chanakya was the Prime Minister of Chandragupta Maurya (3rd & 4th century BC), the founder of the Mauryan dynasty. He is the author of Arthashastra, a great treatise on statecraft.
- **Khan, Abdul Ghaffar Khan (1890-1987):** Red shirt leader and popularly known as Frontier Gandhi, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, was a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi. He was honoured with Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1967 and Bharat Ratna in 1987.
- **Khusro, Amir (1253-1325):** A scholar, saint, poet and a master of music, Amir Khusro adorned the courts of Khiljis and Tughlaks.
- **Kumbha, Rana (1431-1469):** Himself a scholar and a patron of learning, Rana Kumbha was a great ruler of Mewar who built *Vijaya Stambha* (Victory Tower) in Chittor, Rajasthan.
- **Lakshmibai, Rani of Jhansi (1835-58):** She took active part in the first war of independence 1857. Died in battle.
- **Lala Lajpat Rai (1865-1928):** A valiant freedom fighter, powerful writer, great orator and dominant Congress leader known as *Sher-e-Punjab*, exiled by the British Govt. for political activities; among the founder of DAV College, Lahore; founded the Servants of People Society in 1924; died of fatal lathi blows of the police during the demonstration against Simon Commission in 1928; editor of Bande Mataram.
- **Lohia, Dr Ram Manohar (1910-1967):** A distinguished social leader who actively participated in the freedom struggle; imprisoned several times; a great parliamentarian and a mighty orator; founder of Socialist Party; he vehemently opposed the continuance of English in India.
- **Mahavira (540-468 BC):** An apostle of non-violence and preacher of penance and self-mortification, Mahavira was the founder of Jainism.
- **Malaviya, Pt Madan Mohan (1861-1946):** A great nationalist and zealous freedom fighter; a leading lawyer, founder of the Banaras Hindu University and served as its Vice-Chancellor for several years; represented India in Round Table Conference. He was elected twice (1909, 1918) as the President of Indian National Congress.
- **Manu:** A great philosopher and the ancient law-giver of India. His famous work is Manu Smiriti.
- **Mavalankar, G.V. (1888-1956):** First Speaker of the Lok Sabha of Indian Republic.
- **Mukherji, Dr Shyama Prasad (1901-1953):** Founder of Jana Sangh, Central Minister of Industries and Supplies (1947-50); expired while in

detention in Srinagar Jail; a renowned political thinker and fearless parliamentarian.

- **Muni, Acharya Sushil Kumar (1926-1994):** He was the founder President of World Fellowship of Religions and International Mahavir Jain Mission.
- **Nagarjuna:** A renowned chemist during 7th and 8th century and author of Ras Ratnakar.
- **Naidu, Mrs Sarojini (1870-1948):** Gifted poetess and impressive orator; actively participated in the freedom struggle; President Indian National Congress, 1925; Governor of Uttar Pradesh, author of the 'Songs of India', 'Bird of Time', 'The Broken Wings' and 'The Golden Threshold.'
- **Nanak, Guru (1469-1538):** Born in Nankana Sahib, a great Indian saint and philosopher, Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism.
- **Narendra Dev, Acharya (1889-1956):** A great Indian leader and socialist thinker.
- **Nehru, Jawahar Lal (1889-1964):** Politician and Statesman of world repute; a fluent speaker and an ardent patriot; participated actively in freedom movement; imprisoned several times; President of Congress in 1929, 1930, 1952-53; Prime Minister of India from 1947-1964. Author of 'Discovery of India,' 'Glimpses of World History,' 'An Autobiography.' His policy of co-existence and non-alignment had won him worldwide fame; author of the doctrine of *Panchsheel* and a great champion of world peace; he was opposed to regional pacts, colonialism and nuclear armaments; died on May 27, 1964.
- **Norgay, Tenzing (1914-1986):** An ace mountaineer, who with Edmund Hillary was first Indian to climb Mount Everest.
- **Panini (5th Century BC):** A great scholar of Sanskrit and a distinguished grammarian and an authority on the subject. His work is 'Ashtadhayi', a famous book on Sanskrit grammar.
- **Paramhansa, Ramakrishna (1836-1886):** He was a great saint and guru of Swami Vivekanand. Ramakrishna Mission has been founded after his name.
- **Patel, Sardar Vallabhbhai (1875-1950):** Called 'Iron Man of India', unification of princely states was the stupendous task that won him glory and fame. Actively joined several Congress movements for freedom; imprisoned a number of times; President Indian National Congress, 1931; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs, Information and Broadcasting (1947-50); died on December 14, 1950. He was honoured with Bharat Ratna (posthumously) in 1991.

- **Phule, Jyotiram G. (Mahatma Phule) (1827-1890):** A pioneer in social reform and founded *Satya Shodhak Samaj* for creating social awakening.
- **Pratap, Rana (1540-1597):** The brave ruler of Mewar, who carried on incessant war against the Mughals.
- **Premchand, Munshi (1880-1937):** A great story-writer and novelist, his famous books are Godaan, Gaban, Rang Bhumi, Prem Pachisi.
- **Pulkesin II:** A famous Chalukya ruler of south India who defeated Harshavardhana.
- **Radhakrishnan, Dr S (1888-1975):** An eminent philosopher of international fame, and a great author, President of India (1962-67). Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University (1939-48); Indian Ambassador to USSR; Vice-President and Chairman of Rajya Sabha (1952-62). Templeton Foundation prize winner 1974 and honoured with Bharat Ratna 1954.
- **Rajagopalachari, Chakravarti (1879-1972):** A shrewd politician, statesman and a good administrator. He is called the Chanakya of Modern India. First and last Indian Governor-General of free India, President of the Congress, (1932-34, 1939-46); Chief Minister of Madras (1937-39 and 1952-54). He started a new political party Swatantra Party. He was opposed to the introduction of Hindi Language in the South. He was also called grand-old man of Tamil Nadu and was honoured with Bharat Ratna 1954.
- **Dr Rajendra Prasad (1884-1963):** First President of the Indian Republic (1950-62). He was an active member of the youth movement in Bihar. In 1917, he joined Congress and took active part in non-cooperation movement in 1920, President of Congress (1932-34, 1939, 1946). Minister for Food and Agriculture in 1947. President of the Indian Constituent Assembly (1946-1949), author of 'India Divided'; honoured with Bharat Ratna (1962) and died on Feb 28, 1963.
- **Raja Rammohan Roy (1772-1833):** A great political and social reformer of India in 19th century, helped William Bentinck in the abolition of Sati system and other social evils; founder of *Brahma Samaj*; great scholar of Sanskrit and Persian.
- **Raman, C.V. (1880-1970):** A scientist of world repute; National Professor of Physics. Inventor of 'Raman Effect', Nobel Prize winner in 1929; member, Academy of Philosophy of Sciences at Brussels; honoured with Bharat Ratna (1954).

- **Ramanujacharya:** A religious teacher of Vishishtadvaita philosophy in the 12th century, founder of *Rama Bhakti*. He revived Hinduism to restore its glory.
- **Ramanuja Srinivasa (1887-1920):** One of the greatest mathematician of India.
- **Ray, Satyajit (1921-1992):** Veteran film maker and recipient of Bharat Ratna (1992) and Special Oscar; Died in Kolkata on April 23, 1992.
- **Raya, Krishnadeva:** He was a great ruler of the Vijayanagar Empire and a great scholar and patron of learning.
- **Razia Sultana:** Daughter of Sultan Iltutmish and the first and the only muslim lady to rule from Delhi.
- **Roerich, Devika Rani (1908-1994):** Recipient of prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Award and earlier honoured with Padma Shri, she was the first lady of the Indian silver screen, the last surviving link between the 'silent' and the 'talkies' era.
- **Samudragupta (330-375):** A valiant conqueror, an able administrator, scholar, poet and master of music, Samudragupta is known as 'Indian Napolean.'
- **Sanga (Sangram Singh), Rana:** A distinguished brave ruler of Mewar who lost to Babar in 1527 at the battle of Khanwa.
- **Sarabhai, Dr Vikram (1919-1971):** Chairman of India's Atomic Energy Commission, and Indian Space Research Organisation; was awarded Padma Bhushan in 1966. His greatest achievement is founding of Equatorial-Rocket Launching Station at Thumba.
- **Savarkar, V D (1883-1966):** An ardent Indian nationalist and freedom fighter. He was sentenced to transportation for life in the Nasik Conspiracy Case. He remained President of Hindu Maha Sabha for a long time. His famous book is 'Indian War of Independence.'
- **Shahjehan:** A great Mughal ruler whose reign is called 'Golden Age' of Muslim rule in India. He built Taj Mahal at Agra and Red Fort and Jama Masjid in Delhi.
- **Shankaracharya:** A great scholar and philosopher, zealous preacher of Hinduism in the 8th century. He held religious debates with Buddhists and Jains and converted them to Hinduism.
- **Shastri, Lal Bahadur (1904-1966):** Born in a humble family he rose to be the Prime Minister of India, a zealous and hard Congress worker; very simple in living but honest and high in thinking. He resigned from the Railway Ministry when there was a serious railway accident; after Nehru he became the Prime Minister of India. He won a great name and

fame during the Indo-Pak War (1965). He signed the Tashkent Pact with President Ayub Khan; died on January 10, 1966. He was awarded Bharat Ratna posthumously (1966).

- **Shivaji (1627-80):** Son of Shahji Bhonsle, a valiant fighter and patriot. He was the last great Hindu king who succeeded in establishing *Hindu Swarajya*. He made Marathas a strong nation; fought successfully many battles against Aurangzeb.
- **Subramanyam Chandrasekhar (1910-1995):** Winner of 1983 Physics Nobel Prize for his studies regarding structure and evolution of stars. He died on August 21, 1995.
- **Surdas:** A great saint and a poet of Krishna Bhakti and author of *Sur Sagar*.
- **Suri, Shershah:** A famous and powerful Afghan ruler who drove the Mughals out of India. A very efficient administrator, he built the Grand Trunk Road.
- **Syed, Ahmad Khan (1815-1898):** A great Muslim educationist and reformer in the 19th century and founder of the Aligarh Muslim University.
- **Tagore, Dr Rabindra Nath (1861-1941):** Won Nobel Prize for literature in 1913; one of the greatest lyric poets and a writer of short stories, novels and dramas. He founded the International University at Shanti Niketan in Bengal; Gitanjali, Gora, Chitra, Post Office are some of his famous works.
- **Tansen (1506-1589):** Celebrated musician and one of the nine jewels in Akbar's court.
- **Tata, JRD (1904-1993):** Popularly known JRD, he was the doyen of the Indian industry and father of the Indian Civil Aviation. Honoured with Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award, he contributed a lot to the promotion of science in the country.
- **Thiruvalluvar (1st century):** The greatest ever Tamil poet, who wrote *Thirukural*.
- **Tilak, Bal Gangadhar (1856-1920):** A great nationalist leader and a prolific scholar of Sanskrit, author of several books; imprisoned a number of times in the independence movement; organised the extremist section among the congress men; started Home Rule League in 1916.
- **Tipu Sultan (1750-1799):** Sultan of Mysore who fought valiantly against the British.

- **Todar Mal (16th Century):** Revenue Minister of Akbar who efficiently implemented important land revenue reforms.
- **Tope, Tantya (1814-1859):** A prominent patriot, who joined Nana Sahib and Rani of Jhansi in the first war of India's independence in 1857. He was captured and hanged by the English in 1859.
- **Tughlaq, Mohammad-Bin:** A famous sultan of Delhi, known for his imaginary schemes and undue haste in their implementation.
- **Tuka Ram:** A religious reformer and saint of Maharashtra, he was contemporary of Shivaji.
- **Tulsidas (1532-1623):** A great Hindu saint, devotee of Rama and author of *Rama Charit Manas*.
- **Upadhyaya, Din Dayal (1917-1968):** He was considered to be a great inspiring force behind the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, he worked as the General Secretary of the Party for 14 years and was President at the time of his murder in train on Feb 11, 1968. He was a silent but enthusiastic worker and a zealous builder of the Party.
- **Valmiki (800 BC):** A great saint and celebrated poet (Adi-kavi) of Sanskrit in the ancient India. He wrote *Ramayana* in Sanskrit.
- **Varahamihir (505-587):** A distinguished astronomer, mathematician & philosopher who adorned the court of King Vikramaditya of Ujjaini.
- **Ved Vyas:** A great saint and Sanskrit scholar of ancient India who wrote *Mahabharata* and *Bhagwat-Gita*.
- **Vidyasagar, Ishwar Chandra (1820-91):** Great Indian scholar and reformer who fought for widow's re-marriage, higher education for women and against child marriage.
- **Vivekananda, Swami (1863-1902):** A great propagator of Vedantic Philosophy, founder of Ramakrishna Mission at Belur (West Bengal); an eminent scholar of dynamic energy and inspiring personality, he left an indelible print on the minds of people both at home and abroad.
- **Visvesvarayya, Sri M (1861-1963):** A great philanthropist and engineer. Chief Engineer Mysore State (1909); Chairman, Indian Economic Committee and President All India Manufacturers Organisation (1941). Awarded Bharat Ratna in 1955.
- **Zafar, Bahadur Shah (1775-1862):** The last Mughal ruler in India and a renowned Urdu poet, Bahadur Shah took part in the first war of Indian Independence in 1857. He was arrested, put in jail in Rangoon where he died in 1862.

FAMOUS ARTISTS

Name	Field of Activity
Abanindranath Tagore	Painter
Abdul Halim Zafar Khan	Sitar
Ahmad Jan Thirkuwa	Tabla
Akhtar Begum	Ghazal
Albert Schewitzer (Germany)	Musician, Composer
Ali Akbar Khan	Sarod
Allauddin Khan	Sarod
Amjad Ali Khan	Sarod
Amrita Shergil	Painter
Angelico Era (Italy)	Painter
Arpita Singh	Painter
Asad Ali Khan	Veena
Auguste Rodin (France)	Sculptor
Badal Sarkar	Dramatist
Bade Ghulam Ali Khan	Musician
Bala Saraswathi	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
Birju Maharaj	Dance (Kathak)
Bismillah Khan	Shahnai
Damayanti Joshi	Dance (Kathak)
David Wilkie (Scotland)	Painter
Durga Das	Dance (Kathak)
Edouard Vuillard (France)	Painter
Edvard Grieg (Norway)	Composer and Musician
Fats Waller (USA)	Piano
Fra Angelico (Italy)	Painter
Francisco de Zurbaran (Spain)	Painter
Frederic Chopin (Poland)	Musician
Gajanan Rao Joshi	Violin
Ganga Devi	Painter (Madhubani)
Ghulam Ali	Ghazal
Giuseppe Verdi (Italy)	Musician
Gopi Krishna	Dance (Kathak, Bharat Natyam)
Heitor Villa Lobos (Brazil)	Composer
Hirabai Barodekar	Classical Vocalist
Hugo Wolf (Austria)	Composer
Indrani Rahman	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
Jaheeruddin Dagar	Musician (Dhrupad)
Joseph Haydin (Austria)	Composer
Joshua Reynolds (England)	Painter
Keshava Shankar Pillai	Cartoonist
Kishan Maharaj	Tabla
Krishnarao Shankar Pandit	Musician

Name	Field of Activity
Leonardo Da Vinci (Italy)	Painter/Sculptor
Lorenzo Ghiberti (Italy)	Sculptor
Ludwig Van Bethoven (Austria)	Composer
Mehndi Hasan	Ghazal
M F Hussain	Painter
Mrinalini Sarabhai	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
M S Subbulakshmi	Classical Vocal Music
Naina Devi	Hindustani Classical
Nanda Lal Bose	Painter
Nazir Aminuddin Dagar	Musician (Dhrupad)
Onkarnath Thakur	Musician
Paderewski, Jan (Poland)	Piano
Pandit Nikhil Ghosh	Tabla
Panna Lal Ghosh	Flute
Paolo Uccello (Italy)	Painter
Paul Cezanne (France)	Painter
Peter Paul Rubens (England)	Painter
Rais Khan	Sitar
Ram Kumar	Painter
Raphael, Sanzio (Italy)	Painter
Ravi Shankar	Sitar
Rodin Auguste (France)	Sculptor
R K Laxman	Cartoonist
Sadiq Ali Khan	Veena
Satish Gujral	Painter
Shafat Ahmad Khan	Tabla
Shambhu Maharaj	Dance (Kathak)
Siddheswari Devi	Musician
Sitara Devi	Dance (Kathak)
Sonal Mansingh	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
Stevie Wonder (USA)	Composer and Singer
Sudhir Dhar	Cartoonist
Sudhir Tailang	Cartoonist
Syvatoslov Roerich (Russia)	Painter
Tansen	Musician
T R Mahalingam	Flute
Uday Shankar	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
Ustad Vilayat Khan	Sitar
Van Ryn Rembrandt (Dutch)	Painter
Vishwa Mohan Bhatt	Guitarist
Walt Disney (USA)	Cartoonist
Wang Wei (China)	Painter
Yamini Krishnamurthi	Dance (Bharat Natyam)
Yehudi Menuhin (USA)	Violin

15

World : General

IMPORTANT CITIES, PLACES, BUILDINGS, ETC. OF THE WORLD

- **Abu Simbel:** In Egypt; ancient temples carved out of solid sandstone.
- **Adam's Bridge:** Chain of sandbanks, 22 metres long in Palk Strait between India and Sri Lanka.
- **Alexandria:** Important city and sea-port of Egypt; founded by Alexander, the Great; chief centre of foreign trade. It is famous for a white marble lighthouse on the island of Pharaos.
- **Amsterdam:** Capital of the Netherlands; famous for diamond-cutting industry.
- **Angkor Vat:** Famous for ruins of ancient Hindu Temples in Cambodia dedicated to Vishnu and built in 12th century AD.
- **Baikonour:** Spaceship launching station (cosmodrome) in Kazakhstan.
- **Baku:** Situated on the Caspian Sea, an oil-field in Azerbaijan (former USSR) republic.
- **Bangkok:** Capital of Thailand; venue of Asian Games in 1966, 1970 and 1978. It is called the Venice of the East. Venue of Asian Games in 1998 also.
- **Bethlehem:** In Israel; birth place of Jesus Christ.
- **Big Ben:** The Great Bell in Parliament Clock Tower, London.
- **Buckingham Palace:** In London, residence of the Royal Family (King/Queen) of England.
- **Cape Kennedy:** In Florida (USA); America's spaceship launching centre. Now known as *Cape Canaveral.*
- **Catacombs of Rome:** These are the sepulchres of the early Christians, and consisted of more than 40 groups of labyrinths, sometimes going down to five storeys below the surface of the ground.

- **Cenotaph:** A monument in White Hall, London built in the memory of those who sacrificed their lives during World War I.
- **Chicago:** Situated at the mouth of Chicago river in USA, the biggest grain and meat market in the world. Also known as 'Windy City'.
- **Colossus of Rhodes:** A bronze statue of Greek God Apollo, erected by Charles of Lindus at the port of the city of Rhodes.
- **Corsica:** An island in the Mediterranean Sea where Napoleon was born.
- **Detroit:** The fourth largest city in USA, known as the city of motor-cars.
- **Disneyland:** An amusement park at Anaheim, California. It was built in 1955 by Walter Elias Disney, the world famous American Cartoonist and motion-picture producer. The park encloses 170 acres of land. Each main division of the park has its own theme indicated by its name, *viz* Fantasyland, Adventureland, etc. Disneyland's unusual transportation facilities include a monorail, submarines, keelboats, etc.
- **10, Downing Street:** Official residence of the Prime Minister of England in London.
- **Eiffel Tower:** A 985-feet high tower designed by Alexander Gustave Eiffel for the Paris Exposition in 1889 in Paris (France), now being used as a Meteorological Wireless Station.
- **Elba, St.:** An isolated island in the Mediterranean Sea where Napoleon was exiled in 1814-15.
- **Elysee Palace:** Official residence of the President of France.
- **Empire State Building:** In New York (USA); one of the loftiest buildings in the world. It has 102 storeys and a height of 1250 ft.; opened on May 1, 1931.
- **Fleet Street:** A street in London named after the river Fleet; there are offices and printing establishments of many of the leading British newspapers and press agencies.
- **Geneva:** In Switzerland; venue of several international conferences; headquarters of ITU, WIPO, ILO, WHO and Red Cross Society.
- **Golden Triangle:** A heaven for the smugglers in South-East Asia; it refers to the borders of Burma, Thailand and Laos where opium is grown on a large scale and much of which is smuggled out to US and other countries.
- **Great Wall of China:** A wall built in North China along Southern edge of Mongolian plateau to keep out invading Mongols; 1,500 miles long, 15 to 50 feet high and 15 to 25 feet wide; its construction completed in 3rd century BC.

- **Greenwich:** Situated on the Thames river near London and noted for its astronomical observatory; located on the prime meridian from which geographic longitude is measured.
- **Hagia Sophia:** Church of St. Sophia at Constantinople built by Roman Emperor Justinian (531-538 AD).
- **Hanging Gardens of Babylon:** They were in the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar (6th century B.C.), 100 km south of present Baghdad.
- **Harappa:** Situated near Montgomery in Pakistan; excavations of prehistoric buildings of pre-Aryan days or Indus Valley Civilisation.
- **Hiroshima:** A flourishing Japanese town completely destroyed by the first atom bomb on August 6, 1945 during the World War II. Asian Games in 1994 were held here.
- **Hollywood:** Centre of world's biggest film industry in California, USA.
- **Hong Kong:** A British colony composed of a peninsula on the South-East China mainland and many islands off the coast; one of the world's finest harbour; recently UK and China reached an accord on restoration of Chinese sovereignty on Hong Kong in 1997.
- **Hyde Park:** Famous place for public meetings in London.
- **Jerusalem:** Capital of Israel. Holy city for three faiths; Jews, Christians and Muslims.
- **Johannesburg:** Important Gold mining centre in South Africa.
- **Jordell Bank Observatory:** It is the locale of the world famous radio telescope near Manchester in UK. It has played an important role in international space research.
- **Kaaba:** A holy place for the Muslims in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.
- **Kilimanjaro:** Volcanic mountain in north Tanzania, the highest peak in Africa (5,895 metres).
- **Kimberley:** Situated on the east of Kalahari desert in South Africa; the biggest diamond mining centre/market in the world.
- **Kremlin:** It is a walled citadel in Moscow. Headquarters of the former Soviet Union.
- **London:** Capital of England; one of the world's great cities; situated on river Thames; has some most beautiful buildings; Venue of Olympic Games 1908 1948 and 2012.
- **Los Angeles:** A port of California; the famous film industry of Hollywood is situated here; a few miles off the city is the world famous Disneyland; 1984 Olympic Games were held here.

- **Mecca:** Holy city of Islam in Saudi Arabia; birth place of Prophet Mohammad.
- **Monte Blanc:** Alpine massif on Franco-Italian border; rises to 15,781 ft. (in France), highest point of the Alps.
- **Mohenjo Daro:** In Larkana district of Sindh (Pakistan). Ruins of 5000 years old Indus Valley Civilisation.
- **Nagasaki:** A city and port in Japan; destroyed by atom bomb in 1945.
- **Nankana Sahib:** In Pakistan; birth place of Guru Nanak.
- **Panama Canal:** This 50 mile long canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. It has 12 locks.
- **Paris:** Capital of France, the cultural and fashion metropolis of the world; UNESCO headquarters are located here.
- **Pearl Harbour:** A key naval base of the USA at Oahu in Hawaii Islands. It was the scene of the Japanese air attack during World War II.
- **Pentagon:** It is a five-sided building housing the Headquarters of the Department of Defence in Virginia, USA; world's largest office building.
- **Pisa:** A town in Italy; famous for its 180 feet high leaning tower; birth place of Galileo.
- **Porcelain tower of Nanking:** Built in the ancient capital of South China in early 15th century.
- **Pyramids of Egypt:** Erected as royal tombs to protect the body and thereby to preserve the spirit; such pyramids are found only in Egypt. Great Pyramid of Khufu or Cheops at Gizeh, one of the seven wonders of the world, is the largest pyramid ever built. The pyramids date back to 2700 BC.
- **Rome:** Capital of Italy; situated on the bank of river Tiber; called 'The Eternal City'; one of the world's outstanding historical, religious, cultural and art centres with St. Peter's Church.
- **Scotland Yard:** Headquarters of the Metropolitan Police, London. As the seat of the Criminal Investigation Department, Scotland Yard is a synonym for the force of detectives.
- **Sears Tower:** The 443 metres high 110-storey tower in Chicago, USA, it is one of the world's tallest buildings.
- **Sphinx:** A fabulous monster represented in Egyptian art as a lion with a human head. It also figures in the art of Greece, Assyria, Persia, etc. The best known example is the great Sphinx of Gizeh, Egypt, 52.6 m long and 20.1 m high built around 2700-2900 BC.

www.jmientrance.org

- **St. Helena:** An island in the south Atlantic; Napoleon died here in exile in 1821.
- **Stonehenge:** It is a circular assemblage of huge-shaped stone in Salisbury, about 145 km south-west of London built in 1800-1500 BC.
- **Suez Canal:** 160 km. ship canal in Egypt linking the Mediterranean and Red Seas and separating Africa from Asia; built by Ferdinand de Lesseps in 1859-69; nationalised by President Nasser on July 26, 1956.
- **Taipei-101:** It is the second tallest buildings in the world (508 meter high) built in Taipei, Taiwan.
- **Taxila:** A ruined city in Pakistan near Rawalpindi; ancient seat of Indian learning and Buddhist university.
- **Vatican city:** Sovereign Papal State of about 109 acres forming an enclave near the city of Rome, Italy. It is the smallest independent country created by the Lateran Treaty (1929) between the Pope and the Italian Government.
- **Wall Street:** Thoroughfare in New York; the stock exchange here has come to be used as a synonym for stock dealings in USA.
- **Waterloo:** In Belgium; on June 18, 1815 Wellington defeated Napoleon here.
- **Wembley:** Famous sports stadium in London.
- **White House:** Official residence of US President in Washington; oldest public building in Washington; John Adams (1800) was the first President to live here.
- **Wimbledon:** A London suburb, famous tennis ground where International tennis matches are played.
- **Yellowstone National Park:** A picturesque national American Reserve established in 1872; Yellowstone river flows through it; it includes more than 3,000 geysers and hot springs.

THE HIGHEST, BIGGEST AND LONGEST IN THE WORLD

Airport, *Largest*	King Fahd International Airport, Damman (Saudi Arabia)
Animal, *Tallest*	Giraffe (Average height 6.09 m)
Largest & Heaviest	Blue Whale (190 tonnes)
Longest recorded	Boot lace Worm (55 m)
Fastest	Cheetah (Approximately 100 km/hr)
Bay, *With max. shore line*	Hudson Bay (Canada: 12268 km)
With maximum area	Bay of Bengal (India: 217 million hc)

Bridge, *Highest*	Sidu River Bridge, China (1,627 ft.)
Building, *Tallest*	Burj Khalifa in Dubai (818 meter)
Canal, *Big ship (longest)*	Suez Canal (160 km)
Busiest	Kiel Canal (North Sea)
Canyon/Gorge, *Deepest*	Hells Canyon, Snake River, Idaho (7,900 ft.)
Largest	Grand Canyon (Colarado River; USA; 446 km)
Church, *Largest*	Basilica of St. Peter (Vatican City Rome — Area 23000 sq. m.)
City, *Largest in Area*	Jiuquan Gansu, China (Area 1,67,996 Sq km)
Continent, *biggest*	Asia (30,875,908 km^2)
Smallest	Australia Mainland (Area 76,86,884 km^2)
Country,	
Largest in Population	China (over 140 crore)
Largest in Area	Russia (17,098,242 sq. km)
With largest electorate	India (over 90 crores)
Smallest independent	State of Vatican City (0.44 km^2)
With most land frontiers	China (14), Russia (14)
Dam, *Largest (concrete)*	Grand Coulee Dam (167.6 m hight) on Columbia River (Washington State, USA)
Highest	Jinping-I Dam (305 m)
Delta, *Largest*	Sundarban's Ganga-Brahmaputra delta (105,000 sq. km)
Desert, *Largest*	Sahara (N. Africa; 9,400,000 km^2)
Dome, *Largest*	Singapore National Stadium (310 m)
Epic, *Longest*	Mahabharata
Fish, *Largest fresh water*	Plabeuk (China, Laos and Thailand)
Most abundant	Bristle mouth
Most venomous	Stone Fish (Indo-Pacific Waters)
Film, *Most Oscars*	Ben Hur (11 Oscars—1959); Titanic (11 Oscars—1998)
	The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (11 Oscars—2003)
Fountain, *Tallest*	King Fahd's Fountain (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)
Flower, *Smallest*	Wolfia
Fruit, *Most nutritive*	Avocado (Vitamins A, C, E and Proteins; Central and South America)
Least nutritive	Cucumber
Gulf, *Largest*	Gulf of Mexico (1,544,000 sq. km)

Island, *Biggest*	Greenland (now known as Kalaalit Nunaat—2,175,000 sq km)
Lake, *Largest*	Caspian Sea (Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran border: 37.18 lakh km^2)
Deepest	Baikal (Siberia)
Largest (fresh water)	Superior Lake (USA—Canada border: 82,350 km^2)
Library, *Biggest*	United States Library of Congress (Washington D.C. founded in 1800, contains 101 million items)
Biggest non-statutory	New York Public Library
Mountain, *Highest peak*	Mt. Everest (8848 m; Nepal)
Highest range	Himalayas, Asia (upto 4200 m)
Greatest mountain range	Himalaya-Karakoram (96 out of 109 peaks over 7315 m are here)
Museum, *Largest*	American Museum of Natural History, New York
Ocean, *Largest and Deepest*	The Pacific (Area: 166,240,000 km^2; Depth: 10,924 m)
Oscars, *Maximum awards to*	Walter Elias Disney
Peninsula, *Largest*	Arabia (3.25 million sq. km)
Places, *Coldest (annual mean)*	Polus Nedostupnosti (Antarctica —58°C)
Driest (annual mean)	Desierto de Atacame (near Calama; Chile; rainfall nil)
Hottest (annual mean)	Dallol (Ethiopia; 34.4°C mean temperature)
Rainiest (annual mean)	Mowsynam near Cherapunji (Meghalaya; India; 11,873 mm)
Windiest	The Commonwealth Bay (Gales reach 320 km/ph)
Planet, *Biggest*	Jupiter (equatorial diameter 142984 km)
Brightest, hottest and nearest to Earth	Venus
Nearest to Sun	Mercury
Most satellites	Saturn (82)
Plateau, *Highest*	Tibetan Plateau (Central Asia: 4900 m)
Platform, *Longest (rail)*	Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh; India 1355.4 m long)
Port, *Largest*	Port of New York and New Jersey (USA)
Busiest	Port of Shanghai (China)
Railway Line, *Longest*	Trans-Siberian Railway (Moscow-Nakhodka: 9438 km)

Railway Station, *Largest*	Grand Central Terminal (New York City; 19 hc)
Highest	Tanggula (China: 5068 m)
Religion, *Oldest*	Hinduism
Largest	Christianity
Rivers, *Longest*	(i) Nile (6690 km) (ii) Amazon (6570 km)
Road, *Longest*	Pan American Highway (Alaska–Brasila: 48,000 km)
Sea, *Largest*	South China Sea (2,974,600 sq. km)
Largest (inland)	Mediterranean
Star, *Brightest*	Sirius A (also called Dog Star)
Swimming course, *Longest recognised*	English Channel
Telescope, *Largest (radio)*	Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST); China
Largest (solar)	Kitt Peak National Observatory, (Arizona; USA)
Largest refractor	At Yerkes observatory (Wisconsin; USA; 18.9 m)
Temple, *Largest*	Angkor Vat (Cambodia: 402 acres)
Tower, *Tallest*	Sky Tree, Tokyo, Japan
Tunnel, *Longest (railway)*	Gotthard Rail Tunnel (Switzerland; 57.1 km)
Largest (road)	Laerdal Road Tunnel, (Norway: 24.51 km)
Volcano	
Greatest concentration in	Indonesia
Highest (extinct)	Cerro Aconcagua (6960 m; Andes)
Highest (dormant)	Volcan Llullaillaco (6723 m; Argentina-Chile)
Highest (active)	Ojos del Salado (Chile-Argentina)
Wall, *Longest*	Great Wall of China (main length 3460 km; branches length 2860 km)
Waterfall, *Highest*	Salto-Angel (in Venezuela on a branch of river Carrao, 807 m.)
Largest	Khone Falls (Laos; width 10.8 km)

FIRST IN THE WORLD

First Chinese visitor to India	Fahien
First foreign invader of India	Alexander, the Great (Greek)
First person to climb Mt. Everest	Tenzing Norgay (India) and Edmund Hillary (New Zealand) (1953)
First atom bomb dropped at	Hiroshima (Japan)
First man in the space	Yuri Gagarin (former USSR)
First woman in the space	Valentina Tereshkova (former USSR)
First person to walk in the space	Alexei Leonov (former USSR)
First person to land on the moon	Neil Armstrong (USA)
First and the only woman to have climbed Mt. Everest twice	Santosh Yadav (Indian; May 12, 1992; May 10, 1993)

First person on Mt. Everest without oxygen	Phu Dorjee (Indian; May 9, 1984)
First person to climb Mt. Everest twice	Nawang Gombu
First person to climb Mt. Everest maximum times	Chhewang Nima Sherpa (19 times)
First President of the USA	George Washington
First woman Prime Minister	Sirimavo Bandaranaike (Sri Lanka)
First person to swim across English Channel	Mathew Webb
First woman to swim across English Channel	Gertrude Caroline Ederle
First woman to climb Mt. Everest	Junko Tabei (Japan)
First woman to climb Mt. Everest alone and without oxygen supplies	Alison Hargreaves (Briton: May 13, 1995)
First Aeroplane to fly around the world without refuelling	Voyager (Dec. 1986)
First test-tube Baby	Louise Brown (UK; 1978)
First all-talking Film	Jaz Singer (1927)
First Secretary-General of the UN	Trygve Lie (Norway: 1946-53)
First woman President of the UN General Assembly	Vijayalakshmi Pandit (India: 1953)
First woman to reach North Pole	Ann Bancroft (1986)
First person to reach North Pole	Robert Peary
First person to reach South Pole	Amundsen (1911)
First woman to command Spacecraft in space	Ellin Collins

CAPITAL & CURRENCIES

Country	Capital	Currency
Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani
Albania	Tirana	Lek
Algeria	Algiers	Dinar
Angola	Luanda	New Kwanza
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso
Armenia	Yeravan	Dram
Australia	Canberra	Dollar
Austria	Vienna	Euro
Azerbaijan	Baku	Manat
Bahrain	Manama	Dinar
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka
Barbados	Bridgetown	Dollar
Belarus	Minsk	Ruble
Belgium	Brussels	Euro
Benin	Porto Novo	Franc
Bhutan	Thimphu	Ngultrum[1]

Country	Capital	Currency
Bolivia	La paz	Dollar
Bosnia Herzegovina	Sarajevo	Dinar
Botswana	Gaborone	Pula
Brazil	Brasilia	Real
Bulgaria	Sofia	Lev
Cambodia	Phnom-Penh	Riel
Canada	Ottawa	Dollar
Chile	Santiago	Peso
China	Beijing	Yuan
Colombia	Bogota	Peso
Congo	Brazzaville	Franc
Croatia	Zagreb	Kuna
Cuba	Havana	Peso
Cyprus	Nicosia	Euro

1. Fixed at par with Indian Rupee.

Country	Capital	Currency
Czech Republic	Prague	Koruna
Denmark	Copenhagen	Krone
Ecuador	Quito	Sucre
Egypt	Cairo	Pound
Estonia	Tallinn	Kroon
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Birr
Fiji	Suva	Dollar
Finland	Helsinki	Euro
France	Paris	Euro
Georgia	Tbilisi	Lari
Germany	Berlin	Euro
Ghana	Accra	Cedi
Greece	Athens	Euro
Guatemala	Guatemala City	Quetzal
Guyana	George Town	Dollar
Hungary	Budapest	Forint
Iceland	Reykjavik	Krona
India	New Delhi	Rupee
Indonesia	Jakarta	Rupiah
Iran	Teheran	Rial
Iraq	Baghdad	Dinar
Ireland	Dublin	Euro
Israel	Jerusalem	Shekel
Italy	Rome	Euro
Jamaica	Kingston	Dollar
Japan	Tokyo	Yen
Jordan	Amman	Dinar
Kazakhstan	Akmola	Tenge
Kenya	Nairobi	Shilling
Korea (S)	Seoul	Won
Korea (N)	Pyongyang	Won
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	Som
Kuwait	Kuwait City	Dinar
Laos	Vientiane	Kip
Latvia	Riga	Euro
Lebanon	Beirut	Pound
Liberia	Monrovia	Dollar
Libya	Tripoli	Dinar
Lithuania	Vilnius	Litas
Luxembourg	Luxembourg	Euro
Macedonia	Skopje	Dinar
Malawi	Lilongwe	Kwacha
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Ringgit
Maldives	Male	Rufiyaa
Mali	Bamako	Franc
Mauritius	Port Louis	Rupee
Mexico	Mexico City	Peso
Moldavia	Chisinau	Leu
Mongolia	Ulan Bator	Tugrik
Morocco	Rabat	Dirham
Mozambique	Maputo	Metical

Country	Capital	Currency
Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	Kyat
Namibia	Winohoek	Dollar
Nepal	Kathmandu	Rupee
Netherlands	Amsterdam	Euro
New Zealand	Wellington	Dollar
Nigeria	Abuja	Naira
Norway	Oslo	Krone
Oman	Muscat	Rial
Pakistan	Islamabad	Rupee
Panama	Panama City	Balboa
Peru	Lima	New Sole
Philippines	Manila	Peso
Poland	Warsaw	Zloty
Portugal	Lisbon	Euro
Qatar	Doha	Riyal
Romania	Bucharest	Leu
Russia	Moscow	Ruble
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Rial
Senegal	Dakar	Franc
Slovakia	Bratislava	Koruna (Crown)
Spain	Madrid	Euro
Sri Lanka	Colombo	Rupee
Sudan	Khartoum	Dinar
Suriname	Paramaribo	Guilder
Sweden	Stockholm	Krona
Switzerland	Berne	Swiss Francs
Syria	Damascus	Pound
South Africa	Capetown (Legislative) Pretoria (Administrative)	Rand
Tadzhikistan	Dushanbe	Ruble
Taiwan	Taipei	Dollar
Tanzania	Dodoma	Shilling
Thailand	Bangkok	Baht
Tunisia	Tunis	Dinar
Turkey	Ankara	Lira
Turkmania	Ashikabad	Manat
Uganda	Kampala	Shilling
Ukraine	Kiev	Hyrvnia
United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi	Dirham
U.K.	London	Pound Sterling
U.S.A.	Washington	Dollar
Uruguay	Montevideo	Peso
Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Som
Venezuela	Caracas	Bolivar
Vietnam	Hanoi	Dong
Yemen	Sana'a	Rial
Zimbabwe	Harare	Dollar
Congo (Zaire)	Kinshasa	Zaire

POPULAR NAMES

Popular Name	Real Name
Badshah Khan	Abdul Ghaffar Khan
Bapu, Father of Nation	M.K. Gandhi
Bard of Avon	William Shakespeare
Chachaji *or* Panditji	Jawaharlal Nehru
Desert Fox	Gen. Rommel (Germany)
Desh Bandhu	C.R. Das
Father of English Poetry	Geoffrey Chaucer
Fuhrer	Adolf Hitler
Grand Old Man of India	Dadabhai Naoroji
Grand Old Man of Britain	W.E. Gladstone
Gurudev	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Guruji	M.S. Golwalkar
Grand Commoner	Pitt, the younger
Iron Man of India	Sardar Patel
Lady with the Lamp	Florence Nightingale
Lal, Bal, Pal	Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal
Li-Kwan	Pearl Buck
Little Corporal *or* Man of Destiny	Napoleon Bonaparte
Lokmanya	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Lok Nayak	Jayaprakash Narain
Mahamana	Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya
Maid of Orleans	Joan of Arc
Maiden Queen	Queen Elizabeth I
Man of Blood and Iron	Prince Bismark
Netaji	Subhash Chandra Bose
Nightingale of India	Sarojini Naidu
Priyadarshini	Indira Gandhi
Punjab Kesari	Lala Lajpat Rai
Wizard of the North	Walter Scott

GEOGRAPHICAL SURNAMES

Geographical Surname	Real Name
Bengal's Sorrow	Damodar River
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri Hills
China's Sorrow	Hwang-Ho
City of Palaces	Kolkata

Geographical Surname	Real Name
City of Skyscrapers *or* Empire City	New York
City of Dreaming Spires	Oxford
Cockpit of Europe	Belgium
Dark Continent	Africa
Emerald Isle	Ireland
Eternal City	Rome
Forbidden City	Lhasa (Tibet)
Gateway of India	Mumbai
Gate of Tears	Strait of Bab-el-mandab
Gift of the Nile	Egypt
Granite City	Aberdeen (Scotland)
Hermit Kingdom	Korea
Holy Land	Jerusalem (Palestine)
Island of Pearls	Bahrain (Persian Gulf)
Island of Cloves	Zanzibar
Key to the Mediterranean	Gibraltar
Land of Five Rivers	Punjab
Land of Golden Pagoda	Myanmar (Burma)
Land of Kangaroo	Australia
Land of Maple Leaf/Lillies	Canada
Land of Midnight Sun	Norway
Land of Morning Calm	Korea
Land of the Rising Sun	Japan
Land of Thousand Lakes	Finland
Land of Thunderbolt	Bhutan
Land of the White Elephants	Thailand
Manchester of the Orient	Osaka (Japan)
Pearl of the Antilles *or* Sugar Bowl of the World	Cuba
Pink City	Jaipur
Playground of Europe	Switzerland
Queen of the Adriatic	Venice (Italy)
Roof of the World	Pamirs
Sick Man of Europe	Turkey
Venice of the North	Stockholm (Sweden)
Windy City	Chicago
Whiteman's Grave	Guinea Coast of Africa
World's Loneliest Island	Tristan de Cunha

COUNTRIES'/CITIES' NAMES—OLD AND NEW

Old Name	New Name
Abyssinia	Ethiopia
Basutoland	Lesotho
Bechuanaland	Botswana
British Honduras	Belize
Burma	Myanmar

Old Name	New Name
Ceylon	Sri Lanka
Zaire	Congo
Constantinople	Istanbul
Dahomey	Benin
Dutch East Indies	Indonesia

Old Name	New Name
East Pakistan	Bangladesh
Formosa	Taiwan
Gold Coast	Ghana
Leningrad	St. Petersburg
Leopoldville	Kinshasa
Mesopotamia	Iraq
North Rhodesia	Zambia

Old Name	New Name
Nyasaland	Malawi
Peking	Beijing
Persia	Iran
Rangoon	Yangon
Salisbury	Harare
Siam	Thailand
South West Africa	Namibia
Southern Rhodesia	Zimbabwe

RELIGIOUS POPULATION OF THE WORLD (2016)

Religion	*Population*	*%*
Christians	2,447,988,000	32.9
Roman Catholics	1,242,461,000	16.7
Protestants	552,599,000	7.4
Independents	428,591,000	5.8
Orthodox	284,117,000	3.8
Muslims	1,752,045,000	23.6
Hindus	1,019,421,000	13.7
Buddhists	521,492,000	7.0
Chinese folk religionists	441,145,000	5.9
Ethnoreligionists	267,226,000	3.6
Neoreligionists	66,451,000	0.9
Sikhs	25,741,000	0.3
Jews	14,778,000	0.2
Spiritists	14,550,000	0.2
Taoists	8,691,000	0.1
Baha'is	8,010,000	0.1
Confucianists	8,498,000	0.1
Jains	6,016,000	0.1
Shintoists	2,816,000	0.0
Zoroastrians	196,000	0.0
Nonreligious	827,599,000	11.1
Agnostics	691,289,000	9.3
Atheists	136,310,000	1.8
Total Population	**8,260,261,000**	**100.0**

Source: *The World Almanac 2019.*

MAJOR LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD AND THEIR SPEAKERS

Listing the languages spoken by approximately 1% of humankind (those spoken by more than 60,000,000 people), this table enumerates speakers of each tongue as a primary language.

Language	Speakers (millions)	Language	Speakers (millions)
Chinese	1,298.6	Korean	77.2
Spanish	442.4	French	76.8
English	378.3	Telugu	74.8
Hindi	260.0	Marathi	71.8
Arabic	315.3	Turkish	78.5
Portuguese	222.7	Tamil	66.7
Bengali	242.7	Vietnamese	68
Russian	153.9	Urdu	69.2
Japanese	128.2	Italian	64.8
Javanese	84.4	Punjabi (Western)	93
Lahnda	118.9	Malay	60.7
German	76.0	Persian	61.5

Source: *The World Almanac 2019.*

IMPORTANT NEWSPAPERS

Newspaper	Country	Newspaper	Country
Al-Ahram	Cairo (Egypt)	New Statesman	London (Great Britain)
Izvestia	Moscow (Russia)	New York Times	New York (USA)
Dawn	Karachi (Pakistan)	Pravda	Moscow (Russia)
Daily News	New York (USA)	People's Daily	Beijing (China)
The Daily Mirror	London (Great Britain)	Merdeka	Jakarta (Indonesia)
The Times	London (Great Britain)	Le Monde	Paris (France)

News Agencies: Near and Far East News (NAFEN), Reuters (Britain), Associated Press (America), United Press (America), Tass (Russia), Globe News Agency, Agency France Press (AFP), King Features, Antara (Indonesia), Bangladesh Sanghbad Sansthan (BSS-Bangladesh), XINHUA (China), Saudi Press Agency (SPA—Riyadh), Pan-African News Agency (PANA—Dakar), Inter Press Service (IPS—Rome), EXTEL (London), Australian Associated Press (AAP—Sydney), China News Service (CNS—Beijing), Canadian Press (CP—Toronto).

NAMES OF PARLIAMENTS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Afghanistan: SHORA; **Australia:** Federal Parliament—House of Representative and Senate; **Bangladesh:** Jatiyo Sansad; **Bhutan:** TSHOGDU; **Britain:** Parliament—House of Commons and House of Lords; **Canada:** Parliament—House of Commons and Senate; **China Mainland:** National People's Congress; **China National:** YUAN; **Cuba:** National Assembly of People's Power; **Denmark:** Folketing; **Egypt:** People's Assembly; **France:** National Assembly; **Germany:** Bundestag and Bundesrat; **Iran:** Majlis; **Israel:** Knesset; **Japan:**

Diet; **Mongolia:** Great People's Khural; **Myanmar:** Pyithu Muttaw; **Nepal:** National Panchayat; **Norway:** Storting; **Poland:** Sejm; **Russia:** Duma; **Spain:** Cortes; **Sweden:** Rikstag; **USA:** Congress—House of Representatives and Senate; **Vietnam:** National Assembly.

AIRLINES AND AIRPORTS

Important Airlines	
AI	Air India
British Airways	Britain
JAL	Japan Airlines
KLM	Royal Dutch Airline
PAN AM	Pan American Airways
PIA	Pakistan International Airlines
SIL	Singapore International Airlines
Lufthansa	German Airlines
AEROFLOT	Russian Airlines
Cathay Pacific	Hongkong Airlines
Garuda	Indonesian Airlines
TWA	Trans World Airlines (Private US Company)
QUANTAS	Australian Airlines
SAS	Scandinavian Airlines
Important Airports	
Britain	Heathrow (London)
Japan	Narita and Haneda (Tokyo)
America	Kennedy Air Port (New York)
France	Charles de Gaulle (Paris)
India (New Delhi)	Indira Gandhi International Airport
Russia	Sheremetyevo (Moscow)
Sweden	Arlanda (Stockholm)

IMPORTANT RESIDENCES

Buckingham Palace (London)	King/Queen of Britain
10, Downing Street (London)	Prime Minister, Britain
Elysee Palace (Paris)	President, France
Rashtrapati Bhawan (New Delhi)	President, India
White House (Washington)	President, USA
Vatican (Rome)	Pope

NATIONAL EMBLEMS OF IMPORTANT COUNTRIES

Country	Emblem	Country	Emblem
Australia	Kangaroo	Ireland	Shamrock
Canada	White Lily	Italy	White Lily
Denmark	Beach	Japan	Chrysanthemum
France	Lily	Pakistan	Crescent
Germany	Corn Flower	Spain	Eagle
Iran	Rose	USA	Golden Rod

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

Red Triangle	Family Planning
Red Cross	Hospital (or medical aid)
Lotus	Culture and Civilization
Olive Branch	Peace
Red Light	Danger; Traffic signal for 'stop'
Green Light	Traffic signal for 'go'
Black arm-band	Sign of mourning or protest
Two bones crossing each other diagonally with a skull in the upper quadrant	Danger
Flag upside down	Distress
Flag flown at half mast	National mourning
Red Flag	Revolution
White Flag	Truce
Wheel	Progress
V (letter)	Victory

IMPORTANT SLOGANS AND QUOTATIONS

Dilli Chalo	Subhash Chandra Bose
V for Victory	Winston Churchill
Freedom is my birth right	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Give me blood, I shall give you freedom	Subhash Chandra Bose
Quit India	Mahatma Gandhi
Aaram Haram Hai	Jawaharlal Nehru
Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan	Lal Bahadur Shastri
Hey Ram	Mahatma Gandhi's last words
'Government of the people, by the people and for the people'	Abraham Lincoln
A single step for a man—a giant leap for the mankind	Neil Armstrong
Where wealth accumulates, men decay	Goldsmith
Better to reign in Hell than to serve in Heaven	John Milton
Give us good mothers and I shall give you good nation	Napoleon Bonaparte
We do not fear to negotiate but we do not negotiate out of fear	John F. Kennedy

IMPORTANT LINES OF THE WORLD

- **Durand Line:** The line dividing Pakistan and Afghanistan, drawn in 1896 by Sir Mortimer Durand.
- **Hindenburg Line:** A line of fortifications established by the German army in World War I near the French-Belgian border.
- **Maginot Line:** A line of French fortifications erected along the French-German border during the World War II.
- **McMohan Line:** A line defined as boundary between India and Tibet.
- **Older-Neisse Line:** Boundary line between East Germany and Poland.
- **38th Parallel:** The dividing line between North and South Korea.
- **Radcliffe Line:** The dividing line between India and Pakistan in the western sector.

IMPORTANT TOWNS SITUATED ON THE RIVER BANKS

Town	River
Agra	Yamuna
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati
Prayagraj	Confluence of the Ganga and the Yamuna
Ayodhya	Saryu
Baghdad	Tigris
Berlin	Spree
Budapest	Danube
Buenos Aires	La Plata
Cairo	Nile
Kolkata	Hooghly
Cuttack	Mahanadi
Delhi	Yamuna
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra
Dublin	Liffey
Hardwar	Ganga
Hyderabad	Musi
Jabalpur	Narbada
Kanpur	Ganga
Karachi	Indus
Khartoum	Nile
Lahore	Ravi
Leh	Indus

Town	River
Lisbon	Tagus
London	Thames
Lucknow	Gomati
Madrid	Menzanares
Moscow	Moskua
Nasik	Godavari
Nellore	Pennar
New York	Hudson
Paris	Seine
Patna	Ganga
Prague	Moldova
Quebec	St. Lawrence
Rome	Tiber
Sambalpur	Mahanadi
Srinagar	Jhelum
Srirangapatnam	Cauvery
St. Louis	Mississippi
Surat	Tapti
Sydney	Murray-Darling
Varanasi	Ganga
Vienna	Danube
Vijayawada	Krishna
Washington	Potamac
Yangon	Irawadi

16

Abbreviations

A

ABC	:	Audit Bureau of Circulation
ABM	:	Anti-Ballistic Missile
AC	:	Alternating Current ; Air Conditioner
A/C	:	Account
ACC	:	Auxiliary Cadet Corps
ACP	:	Assistant Commissioner of Police
AD	:	Anno Domini (After Christ)
ADB	:	Asian Development Bank
ADF	:	Asian Development Fund
AFTA	:	ASEAN Free Trade Area
AGM	:	Annual General Meeting
AHQ	:	Army Headquarters; Air Headquarters
AI	:	Air India
AIADMK	:	All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
AIDS	:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AIFACS	:	All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society
AIIMS	:	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
AIR	:	All India Radio
ALH	:	Advanced Light Helicopter
AM	:	Ante Meridiem (before noon); Amplitude Modulation
AMU	:	Aligarh Muslim University; Atomic Mass Unit
ANC	:	African National Congress
APPLE	:	Ariane Passenger Payload Launch Experiment

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ASEAN	:	Association of South East Asian Nations
ASI	:	Archaeological Survey of India; Assistant Sub-Inspector
ASLV	:	Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle
ASSOCHAM	:	Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry
ATM	:	Automatic Teller Machine
ATN	:	Asia Television Network
ATR	:	Action Taken Report
AWACS	:	Airborne Warning and Control System

B

BA	:	Bachelor of Arts
BARC	:	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
BASIC	:	Beginners All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code
BBC	:	British Broadcasting Corporation
BC	:	Before Christ; Backward Classes
B Com	:	Bachelor of Commerce
BCG	:	Bacillus Calmette Guerin (Anti-TB vaccine)
BE	:	Bachelor of Engineering
B Ed	:	Bachelor of Education
BEL	:	Bharat Electronics Limited
BHEL	:	Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
BHU	:	Banaras Hindu University
BIFR	:	Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction
BIS	:	Bureau of Indian Standards
BP	:	Blood Pressure; Bills Payable
B Pharm	:	Bachelor of Pharmacy
B Sc	:	Bachelor of Science
BSF	:	Border Security Force
BSRB	:	Banking Service Recruitment Board
B. Tech	:	Bachelor of Technology

C

CA	:	Chartered Accountant, Classified Advertisement
CAD	:	Computer Aided Design
CAG	:	Comptroller and Auditor General
CAM	:	Computer Aided Manufacturing

CBDT	:	Central Board of Direct Taxes
CBI	:	Central Bureau of Investigation
CBSE	:	Central Board of Secondary Education
CD	:	Community Development; Compact Disc
CD-RoM	:	Compact Disc-Read only Memory
CGHS	:	Central Government Health Scheme
CGS	:	Centimetre-Gram-Second
CHOGM	:	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
CIA	:	Central Intelligence Agency (USA)
C-in-C	:	Commander-in-Chief
CID	:	Criminal Investigation Department
cif	:	cost, insurance, freight
CISF	:	Central Industrial Security Force
CJ	:	Chief Justice
CL	:	Casual Leave
CM	:	Chief Minister
CMP	:	Common Minimum Programme
CNN	:	Cable News Network
CO	:	Commanding Officer
COBOL	:	Common Business Oriented Language
CPI	:	Communist Party of India
CPI(M)	:	Communist Party of India (Marxist)
CPMT	:	Combined Pre-Medical Test
CRPF	:	Central Reserve Police Force
CRR	:	Cash Reserve Ratio
CRZ	:	Coastal Regulation Zone
CSIR	:	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
CTBT	:	Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

D

DA	:	Dearness Allowance; Daily Allowance
DAVP	:	Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity
dB	:	Decibel
DC	:	Direct Current; Deputy Commissioner
DD	:	Demand Draft, Delhi Doordarshan
DDA	:	Delhi Development Authority
DDT	:	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (insecticide)
DFDR	:	Digital Flight Data Recorder

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DIG	:	Deputy Inspector General
D. Litt	:	Doctor of Literature
DM	:	District Magistrate
DMK	:	Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
DNA	:	De-oxyribonucleic acid
DOS	:	Disk Operating System
D. Phil	:	Doctor of Philosophy
DRDO	:	Defence Research & Development Organisation
DTP	:	Desk Top Publishing
DTTB	:	Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting

E

E&OE	:	Errors and Omissions Excepted
ECG	:	Electro Cardiogram
EDP	:	Electronic Data Processing
EEG	:	Electroencephalogram/Electroencephalograph
EFTA	:	European Free Trade Association
e.g.	:	exempli gratia (for example)
EMU	:	Electric Multiple Unit
EOU	:	Export Oriented Unit
etc	:	et cetera (and the rest)
EU	:	European Union (former EEC)
EXIM	:	Export Import (Bank)

F

FAX	:	Fascimile Exchange
FBI	:	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FCI	:	Food Corporation of India/Fertilizer Corporation of India
FDI	:	Foreign Direct Investment
FDR	:	Fixed Deposit Receipt
FERA	:	Foreign Exchange Regulation Act
FICCI	:	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
FIR	:	First Information Report
FM	:	Field Marshal; Finance Minister; Frequency Modulation

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fob	:	free on board
for	:	free on rail
FPS	:	Fair Price Shop; Foot-Pound-Second
FTZ	:	Free Trade Zone

G

GATE	:	Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering
GATT	:	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GCF	:	Greatest Common Factor
GCM	:	Greatest Common Measure
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
GIC	:	General Insurance Corporation
GM	:	General Manager
GMAT	:	Graduate Management Admission Test
GMT	:	Greenwich Mean Time
GNP	:	Gross National Product
GOC	:	General Officer Commanding
GPO	:	General Post Office
GRE	:	Graduate Record Examination
GSI	:	Geological Survey of India
GSLV	:	Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle
GST	:	Goods and Services Tax

H

HAL	:	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
HCF	:	Highest Common Factor
HEO	:	High Earth Orbit
HIV	:	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
HMT	:	Hindustan Machine Tools
HMV	:	His Master's Voice; Heavy Motor Vehicles
HO	:	Head Office
hp	:	horse power
HRC	:	Human Rights Commission
HRD	:	Human Resource Development
HUDCO	:	Housing and Urban Development Corporation
Hz	:	Hertz

I

I&B	:	Information and Broadcasting
IA	:	Indian Airlines
IAAI	:	International Airports Authority of India
IAF	:	Indian Air Force
IAS	:	Indian Administrative Service
IAY	:	Indira Awas Yojana
IBM	:	International Business Machines
IBRD	:	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICCR	:	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
ICFIA	:	Indian Council for International Amity
ICICI	:	Industrial Credit Investment Corporation of India
ICJ	:	International Court of Justice
ICU	:	Intensive Care Unit
IDBI	:	Industrial Development Bank of India
IES	:	Indian Economic Service
IFCI	:	Industrial Finance Corporation of India
IFS	:	Indian Foreign Service; Indian Forest Service
IG	:	Inspector General
IGNOU	:	Indira Gandhi National Open University
IIT	:	Indian Institute of Technology
IITF	:	India International Trade Fair
ILO	:	International Labour Organisation
IMA	:	Indian Military Academy
IMF	:	International Monetary Fund
INA	:	Indian National Army
INS	:	Indian Naval Ship; Indian Newspaper Society
INSAT	:	Indian National Satellite
INTELSAT	:	International Telecommunication Satellite
INTERPOL or ICPO	:	International Criminal Police Organisation
IOC	:	International Olympic Committee; Indian Oil Corporation
IPC	:	Indian Penal Code
IPO	:	Indian Postal Order
IPR	:	Intellectual Property Rights
IPS	:	Indian Police Service

IQ	:	Intelligence Quotient
IRA	:	Insurance Regulatory Authority/Irish Revolutionary Army
IRBM	:	Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile
IRDP	:	Integrated Rural Development Programme
IRS	:	Indian Remote Sensing (Satellite)/Indian Revenue Service
ISD	:	International Subscriber Dialling
ISRO	:	Indian Space Research Organisation
IST	:	Indian Standard Time
ITBP	:	Indo-Tibetan Border Police
ITDC	:	India Tourism Development Corporation
ITO	:	Income Tax Office (Officer)
ITPO	:	India Trade Promotion Organisation

J

JEE	:	Joint Entrance Examination
JNU	:	Jawaharlal Nehru University
JPC	:	Joint Parliamentary Committee
JRY	:	Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

K

KG	:	Kindergarten (German word, meaning *children's garden, school for young children, usually between the ages of four and six)*
KVK	:	Krishi Vigyan Kendra
kW	:	Kilowatt

L

LAC	:	Line of Actual Control
LASER	:	Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
lbw	:	leg before wicket
LCA	:	Light Combat Aircraft
LDC	:	Least Developed Countries; Lower Division Clerk
LIC	:	Life Insurance Corporation

LL B	:	Legum Baccalaureus (Bachelor of Laws)
LPG	:	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
LSD	:	Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (a hallucinogenic drug)
LTC	:	Leave Travel Concession
LTTE	:	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

M

MA	:	Master of Arts
MAT	:	Minimum Alternate Tax
MBA	:	Master of Business Administration
MBBS	:	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
MBT	:	Main Battle Tank
MCC	:	Marylebone Cricket Club (of England)
MD	:	Doctor of Medicine; Managing Director
MFN	:	Most Favoured Nation
MICR	:	Magnetic Ink Character Recognition (in Cheques)
MLA	:	Member of Legislative Assembly
MLC	:	Member of Legislative Council
MMTC	:	Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation
MNCs	:	Multi-National Corporations
MO	:	Money Order
MODVAT	:	Modified Value Added Tax
MOU	:	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	:	Member of Parliament; Military Police
MRTPC	:	Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission
MRTS	:	Mass Rapid Transit System
MRVC	:	Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation
MTNL	:	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
MWS	:	Million Wells Scheme

N

NABARD	:	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Develoment
NAD	:	Nothing Abnormal Detected
NAFTA	:	North American Free Trade Agreement
NAM	:	Non-Aligned Movement

NASA	:	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)
NATO	:	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NBT	:	National Book Trust
NCC	:	National Cadet Corps
NCERT	:	National Council of Educational Research and Training
NCR	:	National Capital Region
NDA-NA	:	National Defence Academy and Naval Academy
NDMA	:	National Disaster Management Authority
NFDC	:	National Film Development Corporation
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHAI	:	National Highway Authority of India
NHRC	:	National Human Rights Commission
NIA	:	National Investigation Agency
NOC	:	No Objection Certificate
NOS	:	National Open School
NPC	:	National Productivity Council
NPT	:	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
NRI	:	Non-Resident Indian
NRY	:	Nehru Rozgar Yojana
NSA	:	National Security Act
NSC	:	National Savings Certificate
NSG	:	Nuclear suppliers' Group; National security Guards
NTPC	:	National Thermal Power Corporation

O

OBC	:	Other Backward Classes
OIC	:	Organisation of Islamic Countries
OIGS	:	On India Government Service
ONGC	:	Oil and Natural Gas Commission
OPEC	:	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPD	:	Out Patients' Department

P

PA	:	Personal Assistant
PBX	:	Private Branch Exchange

PC	:	Privy Council; Per Cent; Post Card; Personal Computer
PCRA	:	Petroleum Conservation and Research Association
PDS	:	Public Distribution System
Ph D	:	Doctor of Philosophy
PIB	:	Press Information Bureau; Public Investment Board
PIN	:	Postal Index Number
PLO	:	Palestine Liberation Organisation
PLR	:	Prime Lending Rates
PM	:	Prime Minister; Post Meridiem (after noon)
PMI	:	Purchasing Manager's Index.
PMRY	:	Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana
PO	:	Post Office; Postal Order
PRI	:	Panchayati Raj Institution
PRO	:	Public Relations Officer
PS	:	Postscript; Private Secretary
PSC	:	Public Service Commission
PSLV	:	Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle
PTA	:	Parent Teacher Association; Pilotless Target Aircraft
PTI	:	Press Trust of India; Physical Training Instructor
PTO	:	Please Turn Over
PWD	:	Public Works Department

Q

qty	:	quality, quantity

R

RAC	:	Reservation Against Cancellation
RADAR	:	Radio Detecting and Ranging
RAF	:	Rapid Action Force
RAW	:	Research and Analysis Wing
RBI	:	Reserve Bank of India
RDX	:	Research and Development Explosive
R&D	:	Research and Development

RIMC	:	Rashtriya Indian Military College
RITES	:	Rail India Technical and Economic Services
RMS	:	Railway Mail Service
RNI	:	Registrar of Newspapers for India
ROM	:	Read Only Memory
RPF	:	Railway Protection Force
RPM	:	Revolutions Per Minute
RRB	:	Railway Recruitment Board
RSVP	:	*Respondez Sil vous Plait* (Reply if you please)

S

SAARC	:	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SADA	:	Special Area Development Authority
SAI	:	Sports Authority of India
SAIL	:	Steel Authority of India Limited
SAPTA	:	South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement
SATMO	:	Satellite Money Order
SC	:	Scheduled Caste; Supreme Court
SCI	:	Shipping Corporation of India
SCO	:	Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
SCRA	:	Special Class Railway Apprentice
SEBI	:	Securities and Exchange Board of India
SEZ	:	Special Economic Zone
SLV	:	Satellite Launch Vehicle
SOS	:	Save Our Souls
SPCA	:	Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SROSS	:	Stretched Rohini Satellite Series
SSB	:	Service Selection Board
SSC	:	Staff Selection Commission
STAR	:	Satellite Television Asian Region
STARS	:	Satellite Tracking and Ranging Station
START	:	Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
STC	:	State Trading Corporation
STD	:	Subscriber Trunk Dialling
SWAPO	:	South West Africa People's Organisation

T

TA	:	Travelling Allowance
TADA	:	Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act
TB	:	Tuberculosis; Torpedo Boat
TDS	:	Tax Deduction at Source
TELEX	:	Teleprinter Exchange
TGT	:	Trained Graduate Teacher
TISCO	:	Tata Iron and Steel Company
TMC	:	Tamil Manila Congress
TOEFL	:	Test of English as Foreign Language
TRAI	:	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
TTE	:	Travelling Ticket Examiner

U

UDC	:	Upper Division Clerk
UFO	:	Unidentified Flying Object
UGC	:	University Grants Commission
UHF	:	Ultra High Frequency
UK	:	United Kingdom
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	:	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESCO	:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNHRC	:	United Nations Human Rights Commission
UNI	:	United News of India
UNICEF	:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (now *United Nations Children's Fund*)
UNIDO	:	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNO	:	United Nations Organisation
UPC	:	Under Postal Certificate
UPS	:	Uninterrupted Power Supply
UPSC	:	Union Public Service Commission
UPU	:	Universal Postal Union
USA	:	United States of America
UTI	:	Unit Trust of India

V

VA	:	Volt Ampere; Value Added
VAT	:	Value-Added Tax
VC	:	Vice-Chancellor
VCR	:	Video Cassette Recorder
VDIS	:	Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme
VHF	:	Very High Frequency
VIP	:	Very Important Person
VPL	:	Value Payable Letter
VPP	:	Value Payable Post

W

WADA	:	World Anti-Doping Agency
WCHR	:	World Conference on Human Rights
wef	:	with effect from
WHO	:	World Health Organisation
WMO	:	World Meteorological Organisation
WTO	:	World Trade Organisation; World Tourism Organisation

X

X-mas	:	Christmas (*X-Gk letter Ch : abbreviation for Christ*)

Y

YMCA	:	Young Men's Christian Association
YWCA	:	Young Women's Christian Association

Z

ZBB	:	Zero Based Budgeting
ZPG	:	Zero Population Growth
ZRO	:	Zonal Recruiting Office
ZSI	:	Zoological Survey of India

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17

Important Events of History

INDIA

B.C.:

- **2500–1750 :** Indus Valley Civilization --- Mohenjo-Daro (Larkana district) and Harappa (Montgomery district), both now in Pakistan.
- **1500–1000 :** Rigveda and three other Vedas.
- **1000–500 :** The Epics - The Ramayana and the Mahabharata.
- **563 :** Birth of Gautama Buddha (at Lumbini Village), the founder of Buddhism.
- **540 :** Birth of Mahavira at Kundagram in Bihar, the Preceptor of Jainism.
- **483 :** Death of Gautama Buddha (Buddha's Nirvana).
- **468 :** Mahavira's Nirvana.
- **327–326 :** Alexander, son of Phillip, King of Macedonia, invaded India, defeated Porus. It opened a land route from Europe to India.
- **321 :** Chandragupta Maurya, founder of the first historical empire in India.
- **273–232 :** Ashoka, one of the greatest Kings in history, conquered Kalinga (261 B.C.), embraced and preached Buddhism.
- **58 :** Beginning of Vikrama Era.

A.D.

- **78 :** Beginning of Saka Era.
- **120–162 :** Kushan Dynasty.

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- **320–535 :** The Gupta Dynasty — Golden age of the Hindus; Art and Literature flourished during Chandragupta Vikramaditya. Great personages like Kalidasa — a poet and dramatist; Aryabhatta, Varahmihira and Brahma Gupta — the great mathematicians and astronomers of their time; Kumarila Bhatta; Shankaracharya — the greatest preacher of Hinduism; and Dhanwantari, a great physician; Carvings of Ajanta and Ellora caves.
- **399–414 :** Visit of Fahien, the first Chinese pilgrim.
- **600 :** Zero invented by Indian mathematicians.
- **606–647 :** Harsha Vardhan - the last Hindu King of Northern India.
- **622 :** Beginning of Hijri Era.
- **635–643 :** Visit of Hieun-Tsang, a Chinese traveller and philosopher.
- **1000–1026 :** Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni led a series of plundering raids — 17 in number — including plundering of Somnath temple in Gujarat.
- **1192 :** Mohammad Ghori founded the Muslim rule in India by defeating Prithvi Raj Chauhan, the last Rajput King of Delhi.
- **1206 :** Foundation of the first Muslim Slave dynasty in India by Kutub-uddin Aibek, a lieutenant of Ghori.
- **1231 :** Foundation of Qutub Minar (in Delhi) was laid.
- **1336 :** Vijaynagar Empire founded in South India.
- **1398 :** Invasion of India by Timur, the lame.
- **1469 :** Birth of Guru Nanak, founder of Sikhism.
- **1498 :** Discovery of sea-route to India via the Cape of Good Hope by Vasco-da Gama, Portuguese sailor reached Calicut.
- **1526 :** First battle of Panipat. Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodhi and founded Mughal empire in India.
- **1576 :** Battle of Haldighati (Near Udaipur—Rajasthan); Akbar defeated Rana Pratap.
- **1581 :** Din-i-Elahi founded by Akbar.
- **1600 :** East India Company established.
- **1612 :** First English factory was set up at Surat.
- **1628–1658 :** Reign of Shah Jehan.
- **1658 :** Aurangzeb ascends the throne of Delhi.
- **1674 :** Shivaji crowned King at Raigarh.
- **1739 :** Invasion of India by Nadir Shah.
- **1757 :** Battle of Plassey (Bengal), Clive defeated Siraj-ud-daulah, Nawab of Bengal. It paved the way for establishing British rule in India.
- **1764 :** Battle of Buxar (Bihar).

- **1765 :** Grant of Diwani — Bengal, Bihar and Orissa — to the British.
- **1769 :** Bengal famine.
- **1772–1785 :** Warren Hastings, the first Governor of Bengal.
- **1784 :** Pitt's India Bill passed by British Parliament.
- **1793 :** Permanent Settlement of land in Bengal.
- **1829 :** Prohibition of Sati by Lord William Bentinck.
- **1853 :** The first Indian Railway from Mumbai to Thane (April 16)
- **1857:** First War of Independence of India — Sepoy Mutiny (May 10)
- **1858 :** End of East India Company Rule; administration transferred to the British Crown. Proclamation of Queen Victoria.
- **1861 :** Birth of Rabindranath Tagore.
- **1863 :** Birth of Swami Vivekananda.
- **1869 :** Mahatma Gandhi was born on Oct 2 at Porbandar.
- **1885 :** Formation of Indian National Congress by A.O.Hume.
- **1889 :** Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14.
- **1905 :** The first partition of Bengal.
- **1909 :** Indian Councils Act or Morley-Minto Reforms Bill passed.
- **1911 :** Partition of Bengal revoked, Capital of India transferred from Calcutta to Delhi, King George V laid the foundation stone of New Delhi on December 15.
- **1914–18 :** World War I (Aug 4, 1914 - Nov 11, 1918).
- **1919 :** Rowlatt Act passed. Jalianwala Bagh (Amritsar) massacre on April 13; Montague-Chelmsford reforms.
- **1920 :** Khilafat Movement; death of Tilak; Non-cooperation movement started by Mahatma Gandhi.
- **1922 :** Chauri-Chaura outrage.
- **1928 :** Visit of Simon Commission; Boycott of the Commission by the Indians, Death of Lala Lajpat Rai.
- **1929 :** ''Poorna Swarajya" resolution passed at the Lahore Congress Session under the Presidentship of Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru on December 31.
- **1930 :** Civil Disobedience Movement; Gandhiji started his famous Dandi March to break the salt laws on April 6; First Round Table Conference in London.
- **1931 :** Gandhi-Irwin Pact; Second Round Table Conference.
- **1939 :** World War II broke out on September 3.
- **1941 :** Death of Rabindranath Tagore; Escape of Subhash Chandra Bose from India.

- **1942 :** ''Quit India'' Movement (Aug. 8); Cripps Mission visited India; British offer of dominion status after war.
- **1943 :** Indian National Army organised at Singapore by Subhash Chandra Bose.
- **1945 :** Simla Conference; INA trial at Red Fort, Delhi.
- **1947 :** Partition of India declared; The British Rule ended; formation of two ''Independent States'' India and Pakistan; Mountbatten first Governor-General of free India.
- **1948 :** Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (January 30) by Nathu Ram Godse; Kashmir acceded to India; C. Rajgopalachari took over as the first Indian Governor-General.
- **1948-50 :** Integration of the Princely States into the Indian Union.
- **1949 :** Indian Constitution was signed and adopted (November 26).
- **1950 :** India became Sovereign Republic (January 26). Sardar Patel died (December 15); Dr. Rajendra Prasad became first President of India.
- **1951:** First Five-Year Plan launched; First census in free India.
- **1952 :** First General Elections.
- **1956 :** States Re-organisation Act comes into force (Nov. 1), Life Insurance nationalised. Second Five-Year Plan launched.
- **1957 :** Second General Elections; Introduction of decimal system of coinage from April 1.
- **1958 :** Metric system of weights introduced (October 1).
- **1961 :** Third Five-Year Plan launched; Liberation of Goa from Portuguese possession (December 18).
- **1962 :** Third General Elections; China's massive aggression on India (Oct. 20).
- **1964 :** Death of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru (May 27), Lal Bahadur Shastri sworn-in as next Prime Minister (June 9).
- **1965 :** Pak attack on the Rann of Kutch (April); Massive Pakistani attack on Kashmir in Chhamb Sector on Sept 1, ceasefire on Sept 23.
- **1966 :** Tashkent Pact between India and Pakistan; Death of Lal Bahadur Shastri (Jan. 11); Mrs. Indira Gandhi became the Prime Minister (Jan. 24); Devaluation of Currency (June 6); formation of Haryana state out of composite state of Punjab (Nov. 1).
- **1967 :** Fourth General Elections; Congress returned to Power; Dr. Zakir Hussain elected President of India.
- **1969 :** Nationalisation of 14 big Banks.
- **1970 :** Formation of Meghalaya (April 2), Fourth Lok Sabha dissolved on Dec. 27.

- **1971 :** Mid-term elections; Mrs. Gandhi swept the polls; Indo-Pak War (Dec. 3-17); Birth of Bangladesh.
- **1972 :** Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura became full-fledged States; Simla agreement between India and Pakistan (July); Mizoram and Arunachal --- new Union Territories formed.
- **1973 :** Nationalisation of coal mines; Mysore State renamed as Karnataka.
- **1974 :** Oil found in Bombay-High; India becomes 6th nuclear power, underground nuclear explosion at Pokhran (Rajasthan) on May 18.
- **1975 :** Sikkim becomes full-fledged State of India (April 14); Aryabhatt, first Indian Satellite, launched on April 19; Declaration of Emergency (June 26).
- **1977 :** The newly formed Janata Party gained absolute majority in the Sixth Lok Sabha elections.
- **1979 :** Second Satellite Bhaskara launched; Parliament approves the Special Courts Bill; Morarji resigns as Prime Minister (July 15).
- **1980 :** Massive win of Congress-I in Mid-term polls, Mrs. Gandhi again the Prime Minister; Six more banks nationalised (April 15).
- **1981 :** Bearer Bond scheme to unearth black money introduced; 1981 census completed; I.A.F. completes 50 years of existence.
- **1982 :** Indian scientists' team reached Antarctica for scientific exploration (Jan. 9); Golden Jubilee of Civil Aviation in India (Oct. 15); Ninth Asiad in New Delhi.
- **1983 :** Seventh Non-aligned Summit at New Delhi (March 7-12); INSAT-1B launched; Commonwealth conference in New Delhi (Nov.).
- **1984 :** Indian National Science Congress golden jubilee celebrated; Sqn. Ldr. Rakesh Sharma becomes first Indian to go into space through joint Indo-Soviet Space Mission (April 3-11); Metro Rail commences operation in Calcutta (Oct. 24); Assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi (Oct. 31); Poisonous gas leak from Union Carbide Plant at Bhopal (Dec. 3)---over 2,200 persons killed; 8th General Elections.
- **1985 :** Anti-defection bill passed by Parliament; 5-day week introduced in Central Government offices (June 3); Air India Boeing 'Kanishka' crashes, all the 329 persons aboard killed; Assam accord reached on foreigners' issue in Assam (Aug. 15).
- **1986 :** Mizoram and Arunachal become the 23rd and 24th States of India.
- **1987:** Indo-Sri Lanka Accord (July 29).

- **1988:** India successfully tested surface-to-surface missile 'Prithvi' (February 25); India's remote sensing satellite IRS-1A launched from Baikonour in the USSR (March 17); INSAT-1C launched from Kourou in French Guyana (July 22); Bill to reduce voting age to 18 passed by Parliament (Dec 15).
- **1989:** Satyajit Ray honoured with Legion D Honour (Feb 2); RS Pathak elected to the World Court (April 18); Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni' launched (May 22); Second successful test-launch of 'Prithvi' (Oct 27); 9th Lok Sabha elections (Nov 22, 24 and 26).
- **1990:** INSAT-1D launched successfully (June 12); PM VP Singh announced 27 per cent reservation for socially and educationally backward classes (Aug 7); Multi-target surface-to-air missile 'Akash' successfully test-launched (Aug 16); Supreme Court stayed Mandal Report implementation (Oct 1); Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit passed away (Dec 1).
- **1991:** Former PM Rajiv Gandhi assassinated (May 21); PV Narasimha Rao sworn in as India's 9th PM (June 21); IRS-1B launched successfully (Aug 29); 'Trishul' test-fired successfully (Nov. 2); Delhi Assembly Bill passed by Lok Sabha (Dec. 21).
- **1992:** CBI enquiry ordered into Stock Scam (May 11); ASLV puts satellite into orbit (May 20); Tenth Finance Commission constituted (June 15); Tin Bigha corridor leased out to Bangladesh (June 26); PM ordered JPC probe into security scam (July 9); Disputed Structure in Ayodhya demolished (Dec. 6).
- **1993:** Gold Bond Scheme introduced (Jan. 31); Autonomy for Bodo Areas (Feb. 19); 27 per cent OBC job quota effective (Sept. 8); Earthquake devastation in Latur, Maharashtra (Sept. 30); Doyen of Indian industry JRD Tata passes away (Nov. 17).
- **1994:** National Airlines turned Public Ltd company (March 1); Pilotless plane 'Lakshya' test flown (April 8); Panchayati Raj Act comes into force (April 23); Miss Sushmita Sen crowned Miss Universe at Manila (May 21); Miss Aishwarya Rai becomes Miss World (Nov. 19); Satellite money-order service introduced (Dec. 16).
- **1995:** Human organ sale banned (Feb. 4); In Civil Services Exams, upper age limit for OBCs relaxed; SEBI given additional power to protect interests of investors in the capital market; Tenth Finance Commission Report presented to Parliament (March 14); INSAT-2C launched into orbit (Dec. 7).
- **1996:** Main Battle Tank 'Arjun' dedicated to nation (Jan. 9); 'Prithvi' missile launched (Jan. 27); 11th Lok Sabha Elections held (April-May);

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BJP Govt. formed on (May 16) but could not get Vote of Confidence in Parliament and resigned (May 28); United Front Govt. headed by H.D. Deve Gowda was sworn-in (June 1).

- **1997:** Surface-to-Surface rocket 'Pinaka' test fired successfully (Jan 21); 5th Pay Commission Report presented (Jan 30); INS Gharial commissioned (Feb 14); Congress withdraws support to the UF Government (March 30); 4th National Games opened in Bangalore (May 31); K.R. Narayanan sworn-in President of India (July 25).
- **1998:** M.S. Subbalakshmi, renowned exponent of Carnatic music awarded Bharat Ratna (Jan 14); Mrs. Sonia Gandhi took over as Congress President (March 14); BJP-led coalition govt. headed by Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee was sworn-in (March 19); India conducts 5 nuclear tests in two phases (May 11 and 13).
- **1999:** Pt Ravi Shankar and Gopinath Bardoloi honoured with Bharat Ratna (Jan 30); INSAT-2E sent to orbit (Apr 4); India test-fired Agni-II missile (Apr 11); PSLV-C2 put into orbit 3 satellites (May 26); INS Mysore commissioned (June 2); Cyclone devastates Orissa and West Bengal (Oct, 31).
- **2000:** 87th session of Indian Science Congress held in Pune (Jan, 4); INSAT-3B launched from Kourou (Mar 22); Lara Dutta becomes Miss Universe (May 13); Trishul, the surface to air missile test fired (May 23); Trishul test-fired twice (Sept 26); Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) created (Sept 30).
- **2001:** Agni II test-fired successfully (Jan. 17); Lata Mangeshkar and Bismillah Khan chosen for Bharat Ratna (Jan. 25); Attack on Parliament. All five militants killed (Dec. 13).
- **2002:** Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam sworn in as 12th President (July 25); B.S. Shekhawat sworn in as Vice-President (Aug. 19).
- **2003:** GSLV-D2 launched successfully (May 8); India launches INSAT-3E from Kourou in French Guiana (Sep. 28); Afro-Asian Games got off a sparkling start in Hyderabad (Oct. 24).
- **2004:** Congress-led Coalition Govt. headed by Mr. Manmohan Singh was sworn-in (May 22); EDUSAT launched from Sriharikota (Sept. 20); South Coastal India hit by earthquake Tsunami (Dec. 26).
- **2005:** International status granted to Srinagar's domestic airport (Jan. 27); 20 States introduced VAT regime (April 1); Cartosat-1 and Hamsat put into Polar orbit (May 5); The Right to Information Act came into force (Oct. 12).

- **2006:** India, Saudi Arabia signed Delhi Declaration (January 27); State of Assam changed its name to Asom (Feb. 27); India successfully carried out the first test of a cryogenic rocket engine (Oct. 28).
- **2007:** Cauvery Tribunal gave final award setting out the share of water of the Cauvery (Feb. 5); The Taj Mahel has been voted as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World (July 7).
- **2008:** Abhinav Bindra won the Olympic Gold medal in Beijing for 10-metre air rifle event (August 11); Moon Mission Chandrayan I lifted off successfully into its initial orbit (Oct. 22).
- **2009:** Omar Abdullah sworn in as the 11th J&K Chief Minister (Jan. 5); 'Royal Rajasthan on wheels' flagged of from New Delhi (Jan. 19); Dolphin declared national aquatic animal (Oct. 5).
- **2010:** India's 19th N-reactor went operational in Rajasthan (Jan. 23); XIX Commonwealth Games held in New Delhi (Oct. 3-14).
- **2011:** India joined the UN security council as non-permanent member (Jan. 2); 34th National Games began in Jharkhand (Feb. 12); PSLV-C17 put GSAT-12 into orbit (July 15).
- **2012:** India became 6th nation to have a nuclear submarine (Jan. 23); PSLV-C19 puts RISAT-1 in Orbit (April 26); Kolkat a Knight Riders won IPL-5 title (May 27); India inks protocol with UK to aimed tax pact (Nov. 1).
- **2013:** Govt. sets up 14th Finance Commission headed by YV Reddy (Jan. 2); India out of WTO talks in 3 sectors (Jan. 10); India starts Historic Mission to Mars (Nov. 5); Lokpal Bill passed in Parliament (Dec. 18).
- **2014:** Prez Signs Lokpal Bill (Jan. 1); Narendra Modi takes oath as India's 15th PM (May 26); Mangalyaan makes history as India first to orbit Mars in maiden attempt (Sep. 24); PM Modi kicks off Swachh Bharat Mission (Oct. 2); Bharat Ratna for Atal Behari Vajpayee and Madan Mohan Malviya (Dec. 24).
- **2015:** NITI Aayog replaced Planning Commission with PM its Head (January 1); IAF gets made-in-India Tejas fighter aircraft (January 17); India, US break N-deadlock (January 25); Nitish is Bihar CM, again; Lalu's son Tejaswi deputy CM (November 20); India signs nuke MoU with Japan (Dec. 12).
- **2016:** PM releases 100 secret files related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (Jan. 23); PM inaugurates 'Make in India' centre in Mumbai (Feb. 13); India launches 6th navigation satellite (March 10); Modi's surgical hit on black money; ₹ 500, ₹ 1,000 notes withdrawn (November 8).

- **2017:** India-Portugal sign seven agreements (Jan. 7); Biggest tax reforms since Independence GST implemented (July 1); Ram Nath Kovind sworn in as 14th President of India (July 25); M. Venkaiah Naidu became 13th Vice President of India (Aug. 11); 700 + Indians in 'Paradise' expose, govt. orders probe (Nov. 6).
- **2018:** ISRO successfully launches navigation satellite IRNSS-1I (April 12); HD Kumaraswamy takes oath as Karnataka CM (May 23); J&K under Governor rule (June 20); Former PM Atal Behari Vajpayee passes away (Aug. 16); Ranjan Gogoi takes Oath as 46th CJI (Oct. 3).
- **2019:** PM inaugurates 106th Indian Science Congress in Jalandhar (Jan. 3); Narendra Modi took oath as the Prime Minister for a second term (May 30); In a historic ruling, SC rules Ram Temple at disputed site in Ayodhya (Nov. 9).
- **2020:** Gen. Bipin Rawat became India's first CDS (Jan. 1). Citizenship Amendment Act Comes into practice (Jan. 10); Union Budget 2020-21 presented in Lok Sabha by FM Nirmala Sitharaman. (Feb. 1); Arvind Kejriwal took oath as the CM of Delhi for a third term (Feb. 16); Former President Pranab Mukherjee passes away (Aug. 31); ISRO Successfully Launched Earth Observation Satellite EOS-01 (Nov. 07); M.S. Dhoni gets ICC Spirit of Cricket Award of the Decade-2020 (Dec. 28).
- **2021:** India launches 40th Indian scientific expedition to Antarctica from Mormugao Port, Goa (Jan. 5); Manasa Varanasi wins Femina Miss India 2020 crown (Feb. 10); M.K. Stalin becomes new CM of Tamil Nadu (May 07); Himanta Biswa Sarma sworn in as CM of Assam (May 10); Chennai Super Kings won IPL-14 title (Oct. 15); India's Ist Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen. Bipin Rawat dies in a helicopter crash (Dec. 08); Harnaaz Sandhu was crowned Miss Universe 2021 (Dec. 12).
- **2022:** S. Somanath has been appointed as the New Chief of Indian Space Research Organisa-tion (ISRO) (Jan. 12); The Government of India successfully handed over Air India to the Tata Group (Jan. 27); Legendary Singer Lata Mangeshkar passes Away (February 06); In Assembly elections of five states BJP won in U.P., Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa, while AAP in Punjab (March 10); Bhagwant Mann sworn in as New CM of Punjab (March 16); 'Agnipath' Scheme launched for recruitment of youth in the Armed Forces (June 14); Droupadi Murmu sworn in as 15th President (July 25); Jagdeep Dhankhar sworn in as 14th Vice President of India (August 11).

WORLD

B.C.:

- **776 :** First Olympiad in Greece.
- **327 :** Alexander invaded India.
- **214 :** Great wall of China constructed.
- **55 :** Invasion of Britain by Julius Caesar.
- **4 :** Birth of Jesus Christ.

A.D.:

- **29 :** Crucification of Jesus Christ.
- **570 :** Birth of Mohammed at Mecca.
- **871 :** Alfred the Great ascends the throne of Britain.
- **1215 :** Magna Carta signed in England on June 15.
- **1338 :** The Hundred Years' War between England and France broke out, it lasted upto 1453.
- **1453 :** The capture of Constantinople by Turks; the Renaissance — revival of learning in Europe.
- **1492 :** Columbus discovered America.
- **1498 :** Vasco-da-Gama discovered the sea-route to India via the Cape of Good Hope.
- **1564 :** Birth of Shakespeare. (died in 1616)
- **1665 :** Great Plague of London.
- **1666 :** Great Fire of London.
- **1679 :** Habeas Corpus Act was passed by English Parliament.
- **1688 :** The bloodless or Glorious Revolution in England; James-II dethroned; Parliamentary rule began.
- **1707 :** Union of England and Scotland to form Great Britain.
- **1756–63 :** Seven Years' War between France and Britain; France weakened, Treaty of Paris which made England a great colonial power.
- **1776 :** Declaration of American Independence and formation of the U.S.A. (4th July).
- **1783 :** Treaty of Versailles between Great Britain and U.S.A, recognising the American Independence.
- **1789 :** French Revolution; George Washington elected First President of America.

- **1801 :** Parliamentary Union between England and Ireland.
- **1804–25 :** Industrial Revolution in England.
- **1805 :** Battle of Trafalgar, Nelson died.
- **1815 :** Battle of Waterloo, Napoleon defeated and exiled to St. Helena.
- **1821 :** Death of Napoleon at St. Helena.
- **1837 :** Queen Victoria ascended the throne of England.
- **1854–56 :** The Crimean War between Turkey and Russia.
- **1861 :** Abraham Lincoln became 16th President of the U.S.A.
- **1865 :** Ku Klux Klan movement; Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.
- **1869 :** Suez Canal opened for traffic.
- **1877 :** Russo-Turkish War; End of Turkish Empire in Europe.
- **1911 :** Chinese revolution.
- **1914 :** Outbreak of the World War I.
- **1917 :** Russian Revolution; Communist rule in Russia.
- **1918 :** World War I ended; President Wilson's 14 points of peace.
- **1919 :** Treaty of Versailles; Paris Conference.
- **1920 :** Formation of League of Nations.
- **1922 :** Mussolini seizes power in Italy.
- **1923 :** Turkish Republic proclaimed with Mustapha Kemal Pasha as its first President.
- **1924 :** Lenin passed away, Stalin rose to power in Russia.
- **1933 :** Nazi leader Hitler became the Chancellor of Germany.
- **1936 :** King Edward VIII abdicated; George VI crowned; Italy annexed Ethiopia.
- **1939 :** World War II broke out.
- **1945 :** Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombed; World War II ended; U.N.O. founded (October 24); Death of US President Roosevelt (April 12).
- **1947 :** India achieves Independence; formation of Pakistan; Marshall Plan for Europe.
- **1948 :** Burma (4th Jan.) and Ceylon gained independence; Israel formed; Death of Mohammed Ali Jinnah (Pakistan).
- **1949 :** NATO formed (9th April); Ireland became a republic; Indonesia achieves sovereignty; Communists came into power in China (1st Oct.).
- **1950 :** Korean War began.
- **1951 :** Libya became independent.
- **1952 :** Elizabeth II succeeded King George VI in Great Britain; Eisenhower elected President of the U.S.A.; Coup d'etat in Egypt.

- **1953:** Mount Everest conquered (May 29) by Tenzing & Hillary.
- **1954 :** Creation of Laos, Cambodia, North Vietnam and South Vietnam; Formation of SEATO at Manila.
- **1955 :** West Germany joins NATO; Australia got independence; 'Atoms for Peace' conference held at Geneva.
- **1956 :** Nationalisation of Suez Canal (26th July); Independence of Tunisia and Morocco; Japan joined U.N.O.
- **1957 :** Malaya and Ghana freed; U.S.S.R. launched (4th Oct.) its and world's first Sputniks (I and II); International Geophysical year began.
- **1958 :** U.A.R. formed with the merger of Syria and Egypt.
- **1959 :** China claimed large chunks of 40,000 sq. miles in Indian territory; Chinese occupy Tibet; Dalai Lama flees to India.
- **1960 :** Fourteen African countries gained independence; Mrs. Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka became the world's first woman Prime Minister.
- **1961 :** USSR sent its first cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin into space in VOSTOK (April 12); USA launched Alan Shepard into space (5th May); Berlin wall built (14th Aug.); South Africa withdraws from Commonwealth.
- **1962 :** Telstar (USA) launched; USA sent three men into space; China's massive invasion of India (Oct. 20)
- **1963 :** USSR sent its first woman Valentina Tereshkova into space; U.S. Civil Rights Bill introduced, Kenya and Zanzibar got independence; President Kennedy assassinated (Nov. 22).
- **1964 :** Tanzania formed; Malta became independent; Alexei Kosygin becomes Soviet Premier.
- **1965 :** Pakistan attacked Runn of Kutch in Gujarat and later on Jammu and Kashmir; Membership of U.N. Security Council increased from 11 to 15.
- **1966 :** Tashkent Pact; Luna 9 and Luna 13 landed on Moon; Mao Tse-tung introduced the Red Guard Movement.
- **1967 :** Cultural Revolution and Red Guards activities in China; Arab-Israel conflict; Israel gained victories; US Apollo 3 destroyed.
- **1968 :** Mauritius and Swaziland achieved independence; Five Warsaw pact nations occupied Czechoslovakia; Apollo 8 makes the first orbit of the Moon.
- **1969 :** Apollo IX, X and XI with Armstrong, Collins and Aldrin landed on Moon; Summit conference of Islamic countries at Rabat; Border clashes between Russian and Chinese troops.

- **1970 :** Coup in Cambodia; Defeat of Labour Party in Britain; Edward Heath elected Premier of England; Nigeria War ends; China launches its first satellite in space.
- **1971 :** Creation of Bangladesh; Indo-Pak conflict; Z.A.Bhutto declared President of Pakistan; Kurt Waldheim becomes Secretary-General of U.N.; Indo-Soviet treaty signed in New Delhi; Congo renamed Zaire Republic.
- **1972:** Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rahman released from Pak jail; became Prime Minister of Bangladesh; Simla accord signed (3rd July); Ceylon renamed Sri Lanka.
- **1973 :** End of Vietnam War; U.S.A. launches Skylab; Watergate scandal.
- **1974 :** Nixon resigned over Watergate scandal; Emergency declared in Bangladesh.
- **1975 :** International Women's Year; Mujib became President of Bangladesh; Commonwealth Conference in Kingston (Jamaica); The Suez Canal reopened.
- **1976 :** Jimmy Carter elected President of U.S.A; Bloody Civil War in Lebanon continues; Indo-China resumed diplomatic relations; James Callaghan elected PM of U.K.; Viking-I and Viking-II landed on Mars.
- **1977 :** Military captured power in Bangladesh and Pakistan; Military Coup in Thailand; Spain holds the first-free Parliament elections after 41 years.
- **1978 :** World's first test-tube baby, a girl, born in Oldham (U.K.) on July 25; Israel and Egypt reach accord at Camp David (Sep.).
- **1979 :** Egypt and Israel signed peace treaty (March 26); Islamic Republic proclaimed in Iran under the leadership of Ayatollah Khomeini; Mrs. Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman Prime Minister in the history of Britain. The U.S.A. and the Soviet Union signed SALT-II agreement at Vienna (June 18); International Year of the Child.
- **1980 :** Rhodesia freed, named Zimbabwe (April 18); People of Nepal opt for Panchayat System in referendum held on May 2; Iran-Iraq War.
- **1981 :** U.S.A. successfully launched 'Columbia', World's first reusable spaceship (April 12); Greece became the first European Economic Community nation to recognise the PLO (Dec. 16).
- **1982 :** Argentina-Britain War over Falkland.
- **1983 :** U.S. space shuttle 'Challenger' launched successfully (June 18); Tri-Cameral Parliament, in support of apartheid policy, introduced in South Africa.

- **1984 :** China becomes member of International Court of Justice; Mrs. Thatcher and Zhao Ziyang signed the Hong Kong accord (Dec. 19) which provides the transfer of the colony to China in 1997.
- **1985 :** Spain and Portugal join the EEC; Festival of India in France and U.S.A.; SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation) comes into being in Dhaka (December).
- **1986 :** Challenger explodes (Jan 29); Fire in Russia's Chernobyl nuclear power plant; Silver Jubilee of Amnesty International — an institute devoted to protect human rights throughout the world.
- **1987 :** President Mrs. Aquino announced new Constitution for Philippines.
- **1988 :** Gorbachev elected USSR President (Oct 1); Indian troops crush Maldives coup bid (Nov 4); Independent Palestine State declared (Nov 15); Benazir Bhutto took over as Pak Prime Minister (Dec 2).
- **1989:** Soviet troops withdrawal from Kabul completed (Feb 6); Gorbachev elected first Executive President of the USSR (May 25); Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, died (June 3); Pakistan re-admitted to Commonwealth (Sept); Galileo begins its voyage to Jupiter (Oct 18).
- **1990:** Nelson Mandela released after 27 years in prison (Feb 11); Sam Nujoma elected Namibia's first President (Feb 16); Namibia achieved independence (March 21); North and South Yemen merged into a unified Republic of Yemen (May 22); Iraq occupied Kuwait (Aug 2); Two German states unite into one full sovereign state (Oct 3); UN Security Council authorised use of force against Iraq if it did not vacate Kuwait by January 15, 1991 (Nov 29).
- **1991:** Gulf war started (Jan 7); Gulf war ceasefire began (Feb. 27); Referendum in Soviet Union to preserve the Union (March 17); Begum Khaleda Zia sworn-in as Bangladesh PM (March 20); Mandela elected President of African National Congress (July 5); 11 former Soviet republics formed a Commonwealth of Independent States (Dec. 21); Gorbachev resigned as Soviet President (Dec. 25).
- **1992:** Mauritius became a republic (March 12); Tyson jailed for 6 years (March 26); Security Council imposed sanctions against Libya (March 31); Tories back to power in UK (April 10); Shuttle Endeavour's astronauts grab wayward satellite by hands (May 14); Earth Summit began at Rio-de-Janeiro (June 12); Willy Brandt died (Oct. 9).
- **1993:** Czechoslovakia splits in two nations — Czeck and Slovak (Jan. 1); War again in Gulf (Jan. 11); Treaty to ban chemical weapons

signed in Paris (Jan. 15); Bill Clinton sworn-in the 42nd President of U.S.A. (Jan. 20); Denmark finally votes for the Maastricht treaty (May 18); Benazir Bhutto sworn-in as Pak PM (Oct. 18); European Community converted itself into European Union (Nov. 1).

- **1994:** US shuttle Discovery blasts off (Feb. 3); Hungary signed NATO partnership (Feb. 8); 124 countries signed GATT (April 15); Brian Lara at the top as he scored 375 runs at St. Jonhns, Antigua (April 18); Mandela elected South Africa's 1st black President (May 9); Under-sea tunnel linking France and Britain inaugurated (May 6); First Palestinian Government established in Jericho (July 5); 12th Asiad in Hiroshima (Oct. 2-16); SWAPO won a landslide victory in Namibia's first post-independence elections (Dec.).
- **1995:** World Trade Organisation comes into existence (Jan.1); Severe earthquake hits Kobe in Japan (Jan. 17); First Social Development World Summit in Copenhagen (Mar 6-12); Rwanda firing toll over 8000 (Apr 23); 8th SAARC Summit in Delhi; Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) extended indefinitely (May 11); Israeli PM Rabin gunned down (Nov 5).
- **1996:** Ryutaro Hashimota becomes new PM of Japan (Jan 5); G-7 leaders agree on N-Package (March); South Pacific declared N-free zone (March 25); Emergency declared in Sri Lanka (April 28); Communist Mongolia voted for democracy (June 30); CTBT approved by the UN General Assembly (Sept 10); Kofi Annan: New UN Secretary General (Dec 18).
- **1997:** Israel and Palestine clinched Hebron deal (Jan 15); Nawaz Sharif becomes New Prime Minister (Feb 17); Labour Party leader Tony Blair becomes youngest Prime Minister of Britain (May 2); Ninth SAARC Summit at Male (May 12); Hong Kong became part of China after 156 years of British rule (June 30); Diana, Princess of Wales, killed in a car crash in Paris (Aug 31).
- **1998:** S. Africa and China established diplomatic ties (Jan 1); Iraq blocks UN inspection team (Jan 13); Sri Lanka banned LTTE (Jan 26); Pak conducts 5 nuclear tests (May 28); 10th SAARC Summit (July 31); Pak National Assembly passed islamisation law (Oct 9).
- **1999:** 12 European nations adopted 'Euro' as an integrated currency (Jan 1); G-15 summit in Jamaica (Feb 10); East Timor voted for independence (Aug. 30); Geneal Pervez Musharraf took oath as Chief Administrater of the country (Oct 12); Muccau revert back to China after 442 years of Portugese Rule (Dec 20).

- **2000:** Panama Government took over the charge of Strategic Panama Canal from USA ; (Jan 7); US President Bill Clinton arrives in New Delhi (Mar 19); XXVIII Olympic Game starts in Sydney (Sept 15); Asia's first broadband satellite 'pstar' with a speed of 50GB per second launched by Thailand (Sept 27); US Space shuttle 'Discovery' blasts off from Kennedy Space Centre (US) (Oct 12); Yugoslavia inducted into UN (Nov 2).
- **2001:** Sir Donald Bradman died in Australia (Feb. 26); Buddha Statue blasted by Taliban in Afghanistan (Mar. 1); Nasa launched its 2001 Mars Odyssey probe form Kennedy Space Centre in Florida (April 7); American Dennis Tito became first space tourist (April 28); Pervez Musharraf New President of Pakistan (June 20); World Trade Center and the Pentagon Headquarters in USA attacked by terro-rists (Sep. 11).
- **2002:** The 11th SAARC summit held in Kathmandu (Nepal) (January 5-6); Xanana Gusnao become the first President of the World's 192nd independent state East Timor (May 20); Earthquake in Iran, 500 killed (June 22); Brazil won World Cup Football championship, defeating Germany (June 30);200 killed in a terrorists attack in Bali (Indonesia) (Oct. 12).
- **2003:** Space Shuttle Columbia of USA exploded, all the seven member including Kalpana Chawla of Indian origin died (Feb. 1); Mother Teresa beatified in Vatican (Oct. 19); Saddam Hussein captured near Tikrit by US troops (Dec. 13).
- **2004:** Mars Exploration Rover & Spirit rolled onto the Martian soil successfully (Jan. 15); Opportunity Probe Landed on Mars (Jan. 25); NASA launched its first Mercury mission (Aug. 3); Tsunami killed thousands across nine nations (Dec. 26).
- **2005:** Kyoto Protocol came into force (Feb. 16); Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany elected as the new Pope (April 19); Tony Blair won historic third term in UK elections (May 7).
- **2006:** SAFTA became operational (Jan. 1); First space mission to Pluto blasted into space (Jan. 19); Hamas dominated Palestinian Parliament sworn in (Feb. 18); 12 days long 18th Commonwealth Games ended in Melbourne, Australia (March 26); Saddam Hussain executed (Dec. 30).
- **2007:** Romania and Bulgaria joined EU (Jan. 1); Japan launched first defence ministry since World War-II (Jan. 9); Iran launched its first satellite (Feb. 25); 14th SAARC summit held in New Delhi (April 3-4); Australia won World Cup Cricket 2007 (continuous third time) (April 28); Former Premier of Pakistan Mrs. Benazir Bhutto assassinated in Rawalpindi (Dec. 27).

- **2008:** Raul Castro became President of Cuba (Feb. 24); Jigme Y. Thinley took over as Bhutan's first elected PM (April 10); Nepal declared itself a "secular, federal, democratic republic" (May 28).
- **2009:** Sri Lankan troop took full control of Jaffna (Jan. 14); Barack Obama sworn in as the 44th President of USA (Jan. 20); Iran, China signed $ 3.2 bn gas deal (March 16); Netanyahu took over as Israel PM (April 1); Nasa test-launched the world's tallest rocket Ares I-X (Oct. 28); Russia launched new oil route to Asia (Dec. 28).
- **2010:** Dubai opened World's tallest Skyscraper–Burj Khalifa (Jan. 4); Big Bang machine created record collisions (March 30); Russian Parliament approved new START (Dec. 24).
- **2011:** Dilma Rousseff sworn in as Brazil's first woman President (Jan. 1); Nazib Mikati nominated as Lebanon PM (Jan. 25); Russia launched Glonass satellite (Feb. 27); South Sudan became World's newest country (July 9); Baburam Bhattarai became Nepal's 35th PM (Aug 29).
- **2012:** Pakistan assume seat as non-permanent UNSC member (Jan. 1); Myanmar pardons as number of prominent political prisoners (Jan. 13); Nuclear Security Summit 2012 held in Seoul (March 26); Sunita Williams takes over space station command (Sept. 17).
- **2013:** UN Clinches global deal on cutting mercury emissions (Jan. 19); 22nd CHOGM Summit held in Colombo (Nov. 15-17); South Africa's first black President Nelson Mandela died (Dec. 5).
- **2014:** Germany win FIFA World Cup 2014 (July 13); 20th Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow (July 23–Aug. 3).
- **2015:** Pope gives Lanka its 1st Saint (Jan. 14); A massive earthquake hit Nepal, more than 5000 dead (April 25); Iran Parliament nod to nuke deal (Oct. 13); SpaceX succeeds in historic rocket launch, landing (Dec. 22).
- **2016:** Pak clears Hindu Marriage Bill (Feb. 9); China cuts growth target to 6.5-7% (March 5); On Earth Day, 171 countries sign climate deal (April 22); Colombia's president Juan Manuel Santos wins Peace Nobel for deal with FARC (Oct. 7).
- **2017:** Donald Trump sworn in as the 45th President of USA (Jan. 20); Kuwait puts visa ban on 5 nations including Pakistan (Feb. 2); Immanuel Macron became France's youngest ever President (May 14); Former football star George Weah is Liberia's new President (Dec. 29).
- **2018:** US blocks $ 255 m. military aid to Pakistan (Jan. 2); Arif Alvi takes Oath as 13th Pakistan President (Sept. 9); North, South Korea agree to reconnect rail, road links (Oct. 15).

- **2019:** Brazil enters new era with far-right Prez Jair Bolsonaro (Jan. 1); EU adds UAE to tax haven blacklist (March 12); Scott Marrison sworn in as Australian PM (May 29); ISIS leader Baghdadi killed in US forces' raid (Oct. 27); Bolivia Senator Jeanine Anez declares herself interim President (Nov. 13).
- **2020:** UK finally left the EU (Jan. 31); Russia holds 75th Victory day parade in Moscow (June 24); Micheal Martin elected new Prime Minister of Ireland (June 30); Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit held in Moscow (Sep. 04); Joe Biden elected new President of US (Dec. 14); Steve Smith gets ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Decade Award-2020 (Dec. 28).
- **2021:** Asian Development Bank (ADB) and European Investment Bank (EIB) join Hands to protect Oceans by supporting blue economy (Jan. 15); Joe Biden takes over as the 46th President of the USA (Jan. 20); Ist ever Treaty for prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted by UN Comes into force (Jan. 22); Yoweri Kaguta Museveni Re-elected as President of Uganda for 6th term (Jan. 25); Irakli Garibashvili elected new Prime Minister of Georgia (Feb. 26); China announces sanctions on British individuals & entities (March 26); Miss Mexico Andrea Meza crowned Miss Universe 2020 (May 16); Kabul falls to Taliban; Marks end of US era in Afghanistan (August 15); China revises law to allow families to have three kids (August 20); Vladimir Putin party wins parliamentary elections in Russia (Sep. 20); Maria Ressa (Philippines) and Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov (Russia) jointly won Nobel Peace Prize-2021 (Oct. 08); Australia won ICC Men's T-20 World Cup (Nov. 14); Olaf Scholz became new Chancellor of Germany (Dec. 08).
- **2022:** US doctors transplanted a pig heart into a human patient (Jan. 10); Indonesian Parliament approved a bill to relocate the country's capital from Jakarta to Nusantara (Jan. 18); World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda 2022 meeting held (Jan. 17); Rafael Nadal wins Australian Open 2022 (Jan. 30); Russia Invades Ukraine, most of the world leaders condemn the attack (Feb. 24); Karolina Bielawaska from Poland has won the crown of Miss World 2021 at the 70th edition of the beauty pageant at San Juan, Puerto Rico (March 16) Boeing 737-800 crash: Plane carring 132 crashes in China, no survirors (March 22); French President Macron wins election for second five-year term (April 25); G7 launches PGII scheme (June 26); Dinesh Gunawardena became new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka (July 22); 22nd Common-wealth Games held in birmingham, U.K. (28 July to 8 August).

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18

Honours and Award

INTERNATIONAL

1. **Nobel Prize:** These prizes were instituted in 1901 to give effect to the wishes expressed by Alfred Bernhard Nobel (1833-96), the inventor of dynamite, in his will. They are awarded internationally each year for the outstanding achieve-ment in the field of *(i)* Chemistry, *(ii)* Physics, *(iii)* Medicine, *(iv)* Literature, *(v)* Peace and *(vi)* Economics (since 1969 for the first time). They are awarded each year in Oslo (Norway) on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death.

   Indians Honoured with Nobel Prize: Five Indians so far have been awarded these Prizes, (*i*) Rabindranath Tagore for literature in 1913 for his work 'Gitanjali', (*ii*) C. V. Raman for Physics in 1930, (*iii*) Mother Teresa for Peace in 1979, (*iv*) Prof. Amartya Sen for Economics in 1998, (*v*) Kailash Satyarthi for Peace in 2014. In addition, four non-resident Indians have also been awarded the Nobel Prize. They are: (*i*) Hargobind Khurana for Medicine in 1968, (*ii*) Subramanian Chandrasekhar for Physics in 1983, (*iii*) Venkatraman Ramkrishnan for Chemistry in 2009, (*iv*) Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee for Economics in 2019.

   Nobel Prize 2021: –The winners of 2021 Nobel Prizes has been declared in October 2021. The Winners are: ***Peace:*** The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to Maria Ressa (Philippines) and Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov (Russia) "for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace." ***Physics:*** The Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded "for ground-breaking contributions to our understanding of complex systems" with one half jointly to Syukuro Manabe (Japan) and Klaus Hasselmann (Germany) "for the physical

modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming" and the other half to Giorgio Parisi (Italy) "for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales." ***Chemistry:*** The Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been jointly awarded to Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan. Benjamin List from Germany and Scottish-born David MacMillan have been honoured for developing new tools for building molecules that have helped in making new drugs and are more environmentally friendly. ***Literature:*** The Nobel Prize in Literature for is awarded to the novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah (Tanzania) "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents." ***Medicine:*** The Nobel Prize in Medicine has been awarded to David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian for the discoveries on receptors for temperature and touch. Both the scientists are from the United States. ***Economics:*** American David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens have been jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics Originally known as the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. David Card has been awarded for his empirical contributions to labour economics. Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens have been awarded the 2021 prize in economic sciences "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships."

2. **Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding:** Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding was instituted in 1964 by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations to be awarded to a person who contributed the most to the understanding and friendship between different countries. Angela Markel (Germany) got award for 2009. (No Award has been given from 2010).

3. **Gandhi Peace Prize:** This award, which carries an amount of Rs. 1 crore and a citation, was instituted by the Government of India in 1994 during the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi. The first person to receive this award in 1995 was Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, former President of Tanzania. The Gandhi Peace prize 2020 has been given to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman posthumously.

4. **Magsaysay Awards 2021:** The winners of 2021 Magsaysay Award has been declared in August, 2021. The 2021 awardees are: • ***Muhammad Amjad Saqib (Pakistan)***: A visionary who founded one of the largest microfinance institutions in Pakistan, servicing millions of families. • ***Firdausi Qadri (Bangladesh):*** A Bangladeshi scientist who has been

instrumental in discovering vaccines that have saved millions of lives. • ***Steven Muncy (USA):*** A humanitarian who has been helping the displaced refugees of Southeast Asia rebuild their lives. • ***WatchDoc (Indonesia):*** A production house that ingeniously combines documentary filmmaking and alternative platforms to highlight underreported issues in Indonesia. • ***Roberto Ballon (Phillippines):*** A fisherman from Southern Philippines who has led a community in restoring their rich aquatic resources and their primary source of livelihood.

5. **Kalinga Prize:** This award is given each year by the UNESCO and founded by former Odisha Chief Minister late Shri Biju Patnaik for popularisation of science.

6. **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development:** The award was instituted in the memory of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to foster creative cooperation among nations of the world, ushering in of a new international economic order and the enrichment of the human spirit. The award for 2021 has been given to 'Pratham' a civil society organisation dedicated to improving the quality of education among underprivileged children in India and across the world. This prize carries ₹ 25 lakh and a citation.

7. **94th Oscar Awards (Declared in 2022):** The 94th Academy Awards, popularly known as Oscar awards, 2022 were conferred in different categories for outstanding film at grand award ceremony on March 27, 2022 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, USA. CODA was awarded the Oscar of Best Picture. It also won awards for the best screenplay and Best supporting actor for Troy Kotsur, The most awarded movie of the 94th Oscar was 'Dune', which won in six categories. The winners are: • ***Best Film:*** CODA; • ***Best Actress:*** Jessica Chastain for "The Eyes of Tammy Faye"; • ***Best Actor:*** Will Smith for "King Rochard"; • ***Best Director:*** Jane Campion for "The Power of the Dog"; • ***Best Original Song:*** "No Time to Die"; • ***Best Documentary Feature Film:*** "Summer of Soul"; • ***Best Adapted Screenplay:*** "CODA"; • ***Best Original Screenplay:*** "Belfast"; • ***Best Costume Design:*** "Cruella"; • ***Best International Feature Film:*** "Drive My Car" (Japan); • ***Best Supporting Actor:*** Troy Kotsur for "CODA"; • ***Best Animated Feature Film:*** "Encanto"; • ***Best Visual Effects:*** "Dune"; • ***Best Cinematography:*** "Dune"; • ***Best Supporting Actress:*** Ariana De Bose for "West Side Story"; • ***Best Film Editing:*** "Dune"; • ***Best Original Score (Music):*** 'Dune"; • ***Best Original Sound:*** "Dune"; • ***Best Production Design:*** "Dune"; • ***Best Makeup and Hairstyling:*** "The Eyes of Tammy Faye"; • ***Best : Documentary (Short Subject):*** "The Queen of Basketball; • ***Best Short Fim (Animated):*** "The Windshield Wiper"; • ***Best Short Film (Live Action):*** "The Long Goodbye.

8. **Miss World, 2021:** Karolina Bielawaska from Poland has won the crown of Miss World 2021 at the 70th edition of the beauty pageant at San Juan, Puerto Rico on 16 March, 2022. USA's Shree Saini and Olivia Yace of Cote d'Ivoire emerged as the first and second runners-up, respectivily.

9. **Miss Universe, 2021:** Actor-Model Harnaaz Sandhu from India was crowned Miss Universe 2021 on December 12, 2021 in Eilat, Israel, beating contestants from 80 countries. Only two Indians before Ms. Sandhu have won the title of Miss Universe—actors Sushmita Sen in 1994 and Lara Dutta in 2000. Nadia Ferreira of Paraguay and Lalela Mswane of South Africa were the first and second runners-up, respectively. It was the 70th edition of the Miss Universe contest.

10. **Man Booker Prize, 2021:** South African novelist and writer Damon Galgut was on November 3, 2021 awarded the prestigious Booker Prize for the year 2021 for his well-acclaimed novel 'The Promise', receiving £ 50,000. He is the third South African to win the prize, after J.M. Coetzee and Nadine Gordimer.

NATIONAL

Republic Day Awards

1. **Bharat Ratna:** It is India's highest civilian award. It is given for exceptional work in art, literature, science and recognition of public services of the highest order. Government servants are not eligible for it. The following are the reci-pients of the award: ***1954:*** C Rajagopalachari, Dr S Radhakrishnan, Dr CV Raman (Scientist); ***1955:*** Jawaharlal Nehru, Bhagwan Dass (Famous Philosopher), M Visvesvarayya (En-gineer); ***1956:*** No Award; ***1957:*** Govind Ballabh Pant (Former Home Minister); ***1958:*** Dr DK Karve (Great Educationist); ***1959-60:*** No Award; ***1961:*** Dr. BC Roy (Former CM of W Bengal), Babu Purshottam Dass Tandon; ***1962:*** Dr Rajendra Prasad; ***1963:*** Dr Zakir Husain, PV Kane (Famous Scholar); ***1964-65:*** No Award; ***1966:*** Lal Bahadur Shastri (Posthumously); ***1967-70:*** No Award; ***1971:*** Mrs Indira Gandhi; ***1972-74:*** No Award; ***1975:*** VV Giri; ***1976:*** K Kamaraj (Posthumously); ***1977-79:*** No Award; ***1980:*** Mother Teresa; ***1981-82:*** No Award; ***1983:*** Acharya Vinoba Bhave (Posthumously); ***1984-86:*** No Award; ***1987:*** Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan; ***1988:*** Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MG Ramachandran (Posthumously); ***1989:*** No Award; ***1990:*** Dr BR Ambedkar (Posthumously), Nelson Mandela (South African Leader); ***1991:*** Morarji Desai, Rajiv Gandhi (Posthumously) and Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel (Posthumously); ***1992:*** Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Posthumously), JRD Tata, the doyen of Indian industry and film

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maker Satyajit Ray. ***1997:*** Gulzari Lal Nanda, twice interim PM of India, late Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali, a valient freedom fighter of 1942 Quit India fame and Dr. A.P.J. Abul Kalam, the missile man of India; ***1998:*** M.S. Subbalakshmi, noted Carnatic vocalist signer, C. Subramanium, the man behind the green revolution in India; ***1999:*** Lok Nayak Jaya Prakash Narayan (posthumously); Prof Amartya Sen, for his contribution to welfare economics; Pt. Ravi Shanker, the sitar maestro and Gopinath Bardoloi (posthumously), the freedom fighter from Assam; ***2001:*** Lata Mangeshkar and Bismillah Khan; ***2009:*** Pt. Bhimsen Joshi; Renowned Hindustani Classical Vocalist; ***2014:*** Sachin Tendulkar and top Scientist C.N.R. Rao. ***2015:*** Atal Behari Vajpayee, Madan Mohan Malaviya (Posthumously); ***2019:*** Nanaji Deshmukh (Posthumously), Bhupen Hazarika (Posthumously) and Pranab Mukherjee.

2. **Padma Vibhushan:** This award is made for exceptional and distinguished services in any field, including services rendered by Government servants.
3. **Padma Bhushan:** This award is made for distinguished services of a high order in any field, including services rendered by Government servants.
4. **Padma Shri:** This award is made for distinguished services in any field, including services rendered by Government servants.

Awards for Gallantry *(In the Face of Enemy)*

1. **Param Vir Chakra:** The highest award for bravery of some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy, whether onland, at sea or in the air.
2. **Mahavir Chakra:** It is the second highest decoration and is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.
3. **Vir Chakra:** It is the third in order of awards given for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.
4. **Ashoka Chakra:** This medal is awarded for the most conspicuous or some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice on land, at sea or in the air but not in the presence of enemy. According to merit, it is divided in three categories: I, II and III. 2nd category medal is called *Kirti Chakra* and 3rd category medal *Shaurya Chakra.* Officers and all other ranks of the Army, Navy and Air Force, the Reserved Forces, the Territorial Army, the Military and any other lawfully constituted forces, as also member of the Nursing Services of the Armed Forces, civilian citizens of either sex in all walks of life are eligible for the above awards.
5. **Vishisht Seva Medals:** The Vishisht Seva (Distinguished Service) Medals — *Param Vishisht Seva Medal*, *Ati-Vishisht Seva Medal* and

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Vishisht Seva Medal — are awarded to personnel of all the three services in recognition of distinguished service of the "most exceptional" and "exceptional" and a "high" order respectively.

6. **Jeevan Raksha Padak:** This medal is awarded for meritorious act or a series of acts of humane nature displayed in saving life from drowning, fire and in rescue operations in mines, etc. There are three categories in this award: *Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak, Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak,* and *Jeevan Raksha Padak.*

Other Awards

1. **Sahitya Akademi Awards:** These Prizes are awarded annually to the authors of most outstanding books of literary merit published in each of the twenty two Indian languages recognised by the Akademi. There are also two awards for Sanskrit and English. The award, in the form of a casket containing an inscribed copper plate and a cheque of ₹ 1,00000 is given to the author or his/her heir.
2. **National Film Awards:** These awards were instituted in 1954.

   68th National Film Awards (2020) ***(Declared in 2022)*** **:** • ***Best Feature Film:*** Soorarai Pottru (Tamil); • ***Best Director:*** Sachidanandan KR (Ayyappanum Koshiyum, Tamil); • ***Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:*** Tanhaji; • ***Best Actor:*** Suriya for Soorarai Pottru and Ajay Devgn for Tanhaji; • ***Best Actress:*** Aparna Balamurali (Soorarai Pottru); • ***Best Supporting Actor:*** Biju Menon (Ayyappanum Koshiyam); • ***Best Supporting Actress:*** Lakshmi Priya Chandramouli (Sivaranjaniyum Innam Sila Pengallum); • ***Best Action Direction Award:*** AK Ayyappanum Koshiyum; • ***Best Male Playback Singer:*** Rahul Deshpande for Mi Vasantrao (Marathi) and Anish Mangesh Gosavi for Taktak (Marathi); • ***Best Female Playback Singer:*** Nanchamma (Ayyappanum Koshiyam); • ***Best Music Direction:*** Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo, S Thaman; • ***Best film on Social Issues:*** 'Justice Delayed but Delivered' & Three Sisters; • ***Best Cinematography:*** Avijatrik; • ***Best Screenplay:*** Soorarai Pottru, Sudha Kongara and Mandela, Madonne Ashwin; • ***Best Feature Film in Hindi:*** Toolsidas Junior.
3. **Arjuna Awards:** *For Annual sports Awards please refer to Games and Sports Chapter.*
4. **Shram Awards:** Instituted in 1952, these awards are given by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to such workers who make their utmost contribution in raising productivity, efficiency and quality of production. The awards are: Shram Bhushan, Shram Vir, Shram Sri and Shram Devi.

5. **Jnanpith Award 2021*:** Eminent Konkani novelist Damodar Mauzo has been selected for the prestigious Jnanpith Award-2021 for his contribution to the enrichment of Konkani literature through his creative writing.
6. **Dada Saheb Phalke Award:** The award carries a cash prize of ₹ 10 lakh, a Shawl and Swarna Kamal. Recipients of Dada Saheb Phalke Award are:

Dada Saheb Phalke Award Winners

Mrs Devika Rani Roerich	1969	Raj Kapoor	1987	Devanand	2002
B.N. Sirkar	1970	Ashok Kumar	1988	Mrinal Sen	2003
Prithvi Raj Kapoor	1971	Lata Mangeshkar	1989	Ador Gopala Krishnan	2004
Pankaj Mallick	1972	A. Nageshwar Rao	1990	Shyam Benegal	2005
Mrs Ruby Myers	1973	Bhalji Pendharkar	1991	Tapan Sinha	2006
B.N. Reddy	1974	Bhupen Hazarika	1992	Manna Dey	2007
Dhiren Ganguly	1975	Majrooh Sultanpuri	1993	V. K. Murti	2008
Mrs Kanan Devi	1976	Dilip Kumar	1994	D. Ramanaidu	2009
Nitin Bose	1977	Dr Raj Kumar	1995	K. Balachander	2010
R.C. Boral	1978	(Kannada actor)		Soumitra Chatterjee	2011
Sohrab Modi	1979	Sivaji Ganesan	1996	Pran	2012
P. Jai Raj	1980	(Tamil Actor)		Gulzar	2013
Naushad Ali	1981	Pradeepji (Poet, lyricist)	1997	Shashi Kapoor	2014
L.V. Prasad	1982	B.R. Chopra	1998	Manoj Kumar	2015
Mrs. Durga Khote	1983	Hrishikesh Mukherjee	1999	K. Viswanath	2016
Satyajit Roy	1984	Asha Bhonsle	2000	Vinod Khanna	2017
V. Shantaram	1985	(Playback singer)		Amitabh Bachchan	2018
B. Nagi Reddy	1986	Yash Chopra	2001	Rajinikanth	2019

* Previous recipients of the Award are: *1965:* G Shankara Kurup (Odakhuzal: Malayalam); *1966:* Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya (Ganadevata: Bengali); *1967:* Umashankar Joshi (Nisheeth: Gujarati), and K V Puttappa (Ramayana Darshanam: Kannada); *1968:* Sumitranandan Pant (Chidambara: Hindi); *1969:* Raghupathi Sahai 'Firaq' (Gul-e-Naghma: Urdu); *1970:* Dr Vishwanath Satya Narayan (Shri Ramayana Kalpavriksham: Telugu); *1971:* Bishnu Dey (Smiriti Satta Bhavishyat: Bengali); *1972:* Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'(Urvashi: Hindi); *1973:* Dr Dattatreya Ramchandra Bendra (Naku Tanthi: Kannada) and Gopinath Mohanty (Mati Matal: Oriya); *1974:* V S Khandekar (Yayati: Marathi); *1975:* P V Akilandan (Chittrappavi: Tamil); *1976:* Mrs Ashapurna Devi (Pratham Pratishruti: Bengali); *1977:* K Shivaram Karanth (Kannada); *1978:* Sachhidanand Vatsyayan 'Agneya' (Hindi); *1979:* Virendra Kumar Bhattacharya (Mritunjaya: Assamese); *1980:* S K Pottekkat (Oru Desathinte Katha: Malayalam); *1981:* Amrita Pritam (Kagaz te Kanwas: Punjabi); *1982:* Mahadevi Verma (Yama: Hindi); *1983:* Masti Venkatesh Iyenger (Chikaveera Rajendra: Kannada); *1984:* T Shiv Shankar Pillai (Malayalam); *1985:* Pannalal Patel (Gujarati); *1986:* Dr Satchidanand Rout Roy (Oriya); *1987:* V V Shirwadkar 'Kusumagraj' (Marathi); *1988:* Dr C Narayan Reddy (Telugu); *1989:* Ms Quarratul Ain Haider (Urdu); *1990:* V.K. Gokak (Kannada); *1991:* Subhash Mukhopadhyay (Bengali); *1992:* Mr. Naresh Mehta (Hindi); *1993:* Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra (Oriya); *1994:* U R Anantha Murthy (Kannada); *1995:* M T Vasudevan Nair (Malayalam); *1996:* Mahasveta Devi (Bengali); *1997:* Ali Sardar Jafri (Urdu); *1998:* Girish Karnad (Kannada). *1999:* Nirmal Verma (Hindi) and Gurdayal Singh (Punjabi); **2000:** Indira Goswami (Assamese); **2001 :** Rajendra Keshav Lal Shah (Gujarati); **2002:** D. Jaykanthan (Tamil); **2003:** Vinda Karandikar (Marathi); **2004:** Rahman Rahi (Kashmiri); **2005:** Kunwar Narain (Hindi); **2006:** Ravindra Kelekar (Konkani) and Satyavrat Shastri (Sanskrit); **2007:** O.N.V. Kurup (Malayalam); **2008:** Akhlaq Khan Shahryar (Urdu); **2009:** Amar Kant and Shrilal Shukla (Both Hindi); **2010:** Chandrasekhar Kambar (Kannada); **2011:** Prathiba Ray (Odiya); **2012:** Ravuri Bharadwaja (Telugu); **2013:** Kedarnath Singh (Hindi); **2014:** Bhalchandra Nemade (Marathi); **2015:** Raghuveer Chaudhari (Gujarati); **2016:** Shankha Ghosh (Bengali); **2017:** Krishna Sobati (Hindi); **2018:** Amitav Ghosh (English); **2019:** Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri (Malyalam); **2021:** Nilmani Phookan (Assamese).

7. **Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration–2017-18:** The 31st Indira Gandhi award for national integration is given to the pioneer of the Chipko movement, Chandi Prasad Bhatt. for his contribution to promoting and preserving the spirit of national integration. The award carries a cash prize of ₹ 10 lakh.
8. **GD Birla Award:** The G. D. Birla award for humanism carries a cash prize of ₹ 3 lakh and the other two awards carry a cash prize of ₹ 1 lakh each.
9. **Jamnalal Bajaj Awards 2021:** Each of the award comprises a cash prize of ₹ 10 lakh, a trophy and citation. It is given for outstanding role in different walks of life. The winners of 2021 award are Dharampal Saini, Dr. Lal Singh, David H. Albert and Sister Lucy Curian.
10. **Saraswati Samman 2021:** Given to an outstanding literary work of an Indian language recognised by our Constitution. The value of the prize is ₹ 15 lakh. The award for the year 2021 has been given to Eminent Hindi poet and literature Professor Ramdarash Mishra for his collection of poems 'Mein to Yahan Hun".
11. **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards 2021:** 11 scientists have been awarded the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award for science and technology for 2021. And the Awards goes to: ● ***Biological Sciences:*** Dr. Amit Singh: Indian Institute of Science, Bangaluru; Dr. Arun Kumar Shukla: Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur ● ***Chemical Sciences:*** Dr. Kanishka Biswas: Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru; Dr. T. Govindaraju: Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research Bengaluru ● ***Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences:*** Dr. Binoy Kumar Saikia: CSIR North East Institute of Science and Technology Jorhat ● ***Engineering Sciences:*** Dr. Debdeep Mukhopadhyay: Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur ● ***Mathematics Sciences:*** Dr. Anish Ghosh: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai; Dr. Saket Saurabh: The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai ● ***Medical Sciences:*** Dr. J Panniyammakal: Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram; Dr. Rohit Srivastava: Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay ● ***Physical Sciences:*** Dr. Kanak Saha: Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics Pune.
12. **Best Parliamentarian Award:** Bhartruhari Mahtab (2017), Dinesh Trivedi (2016), Ghulam Nabi Azad (2015), Hukumdev Narayan Yadav (2014), Najma Heptulla (2013) are the winners of the "Best Parliamentarian of the Year" Award. Earlier awardees were: Indrajit Gupta (1993), Atal Behari Vajpayee (1994), Chandra Shekhar (1995), Somnath Chatterjee (1996), Pranab Mukherjee (1997), Jaipal Reddy (1998), L.K. Advani (1999), Arjun Singh (2000), Jaswant Singh (2001), Manmohan Singh (2002); Sharad Pawar (2003), Sushma Swaraj (2004), P. Chidambram (2005), Mani Shankar Aiyar (2006), Priyaranjan Dasmunsi (2007), Mohan Singh (2008) and Murli Manohar Joshi (2009), Arun Jaitley (2010), Dr. Karan Singh (2011), Sharad Yadav (2012).
13. **Vyas Samman 2021:** This is awarded by KK Birla Foundation for outstanding Hindi Literary work by an Indian citizen that was published in the past decade. This carries a cash prize of ₹ 4.0 lakh. The award for 2021 has been given to Noted writer Asgar Wazahat for his drama 'Mahabali'.

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Sports

IMPORTANT CUPS & TROPHIES

- **Football:** Merdeka (Asian), Colombo Cup (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Burma), Rovers Cup*, Durand Cup*, F A Cup*, Subroto Mukherjee Cup (Inter School)*, Jules Rimet Trophy (World Soccer Cup), Santosh Trophy (National Football Championship)*, Federation Cup, DCM Cup, World Cup, Nehru Gold Cup.
- **Hockey:** World Cup Championship Trophy, Asian Cup, Bombay Gold Cup*, All India Obaidullah Khan Gold Cup*, Aga Khan Cup*, Lady Rattan Tata Trophy*, Rene Frank Trophy*, Scindia Gold Cup*, Beighton Cup (Kolkata)*, Rangaswamy Trophy (National Hockey Championship)*, Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup*, Esanda Champions Cup, Indira Gandhi Gold Cup, Tun Abdul Razak Cup, World Cup.
- **Table Tennis:** Swaythling Cup (Men's Team), Corbillion Cup (Women's Team), Swiss Open TT Championship (Trophy & Title), Barna-Bellack Cup (Men)*, Jayalakshmi Cup (Women)*, Rajkumari Challenge Cup (Jr Girls)*, Ramanujam Trophy (Jr Boys)*, Asian Cup, Grand Prix, World Cup.
- **Lawn Tennis:** Wimbledon Trophy, Davis Cup, French Open Title Championship, Federation Cup.
- **Cricket:** E E Hinduja Cup, Benson and Hedges, Ashes (Australia—England), Duleep Trophy*, Ranji Trophy (National Cricket Championship)*, Irani Trophy*, Rohinton Baria Trophy*, Sheesh Mahal Trophy*, C K Naidu (Inter Zonal)*, Charminar Challenge Cup, Gillette Cup, Reliance Cup, Rothman's Cup, Sharjah Cup, MRF World Series Nehru Cup, Hero Cup, Australasia Cup.

* National Cups and Trophies

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- **Badminton:** Uber Cup (Women), Thomas Cup (Men), All-England Badminton Tournament (Title), Tunku Abdul Rahman Cup (Asian), Rahimtollah Cup (Men)*, Chadha Cup (Women)*---Inter State.
- **Basketball:** Bangalore Blues Challenge Cup*, Basalat Trophy (Women)*.
- **Chess:** World Championship, National Chess Championship*.
- **Golf:** Prince of Wales Cup (England), Ryder Cup (England), Walker Cup (England).
- **Volleyball:** World Cup, Federation Cup Tournament*.
- **Miscellaneous:** Burdwan Trophy (Weight-lifting)*, Winchester Cup (Polo), Ezra Cup (Polo)*, King's Cup (Air Races: England), Ramnivas Ruia Challenge Gold Trophy (Bridge)*, Sethu Cup (Aquatics)*, Wellington Trophy (Rowing), Schnieder Cup (Seaplane Race; UK), Derby (Horse Race), American Cup (Yacht Racing).

SPORTS TERMS

- **Badminton:** Drop, Smash, Let, Game point, Service over, Selling, Deuce, "In" side, "Out" side, Love all.
- **Baseball:** Home, Diamond, Pitcher, Pullout, Strike, Bunting, Rubber, Base, Battery, Catcher, Hitter, Infield, Outfield, Pinch.
- **Basketball:** Blocking, Dribbling, Free Throw, Held Ball, Holding, Jump Ball, Multiple Throws, Pivot.
- **Billiards:** Cue, Jigger, Pot, Break, Baulk, In Off, Cannons, Bolting, Hazard, Long Jenney, Scratch.
- **Boxing:** Punch, Uppercut, Round, Jab, Hook, Bout, Knockdown, Knock-out, Hitting below the belt, Ring, Break, Defence.
- **Bridge:** Grand Slam, Little Slam, No trump, Trump, Dummy, Hearts, Finesse, Revoke, Rubber, Dealer, Suit, Tricks.
- **Chess:** Bishop, Gambit, Checkmate, Stalemate, Pawn, King, Knight, Rook, Castle, Queen.
- **Cricket:** LBW, Creases, Popping-creases, Stumped, Bye, Leg-bye, Googly, Hat-trick, Maiden over, Drive, Bowling, Duck, Follow on, No Ball, Leg-Break, Off-Break, Gulley, Silly point, Cover point, Hit-wicket, Slip, Off-spinner, Leg-spinner, In-swing, Boundary, Caught, Over, Out, Pitch, Run, Sixer.

* National Cups and Trophies

- **Football:** Foul, Off-side, Corner kick, Free kick, Dribble, Throw-in, Hat-trick, Goal kick, Pass, Penalty-kick, Tripping.
- **Golf:** Bogey, Foursome, Stymied, Tee, Putt, Niblick, Caddie, Links, The Green, Bunker, Best Ball, Dormy, Fairway, Fourball, Greedholes, Par.
- **Hockey:** Penalty, Hat-trick, Penalty corner, Tie-breaker, Carried, Short-corner, Bully, Sticks, Off-side, Rolling, Striking Circle, Dribble, Free hit, Push in, Scoop, Flick, Job, Shooting, Dodging.
- **Horse Racing:** Punter, Jockey, Break, Steeple chase.
- **Polo:** Mallet, Bunker, Chukker.
- **Rugby Football:** Scrum, Tackle, Lines, Touch, Try.
- **Swimming:** Crawl, Breast stroke, dive.
- **Tennis:** Back hand drive, Volley, Smash, Half volley, Deuce, Service, Let, Grand Slam, Fault.
- **Volleyball:** Deuce, Love all, Smash, Sideout, Upperhandpass, Take-off, Block, Double fault, Spikers, Point, Doubling, Heave, Holding, Volley.
- **Wrestling:** Half Nelson, Heave, Drop Kick, Head Lock, Hold, Rebouts, Scissor.

NATIONAL GAMES OF SOME COUNTRIES

Country	Game	Country	Game
America	Baseball	Spain	Bull Fighting
Australia	Cricket	Scotland	Rugby Football
Canada	Ice Hockey	UK	Cricket
Japan	Jujitsu		

GAMES AND NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON EACH SIDE

Game	No. of Players	Game	No. of Players
Baseball	9	Kabaddi	8
Basketball	5	Netball	7
Badminton	1 to 2	Polo	4
Cricket	11	Table Tennis	1 to 2
Football Association	11	Tennis	1 to 2
Football (Rugby)	15	Volleyball	6
Hockey	11	Water Polo	7

MEASUREMENT OF SOME SPORTS FIELDS

Badminton Court	20 × 44 ft (Doubles); 17 × 44 ft (Singles)
Baseball	Distance between each base 90 ft (Diamond shaped ground) Distance along the diagonals 127 ft.
Basketball	85 × 46 ft (maximum dimension)
Cricket	Grounds round or oval shaped, incuts: 22 yds apart.
Crocquet	35 × 28 yds.
Derby Course	1½ miles (2.4 kilometres).
Football field	Length—100 to 130 yds.; Width—50 to 56 yds.
Football (Rugby)	Length—110 yds; Width—75 yds.
Golf Hole	4½ inches in diameter.
Hockey ground	Length 100 × 55-60 yds.
Marathon Race	26 miles, 385 yards.
Ping Pong	9 × 5 × 2½ ft above floor
Polo	300 × 160 yds if boarded; 300 × 200 yds if unboarded
Tennis Court	For Doubles 78 × 36 ft; For Singles 78 × 28 ft Height of net at centre 3 ft.
Volleyball	Rectangular 60 × 30 ft.
Water Polo	30 × 20 yds.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES AND OTHER SPORTS COMPETITIONS

The Olympic games were first held at Olympia (Greece) in the year 776 BC. But on account of a Decree issued by the then Roman Emperor, these games ceased to be played from 394 AD. Some 1500 years later, these athletic contests were revived at Athens in 1896 and since then these games have been restaged every four years excepting the period broken by two world wars. All countries having national sports associations and affiliated to the International Olympic Association can participate in the competitions. The games are organised at different places throughout the world. Following table gives the years and places of Olympic Games:

1896	Athens, Greece
1900	Paris, France
1904	St Louis, USA
1906*	Athens, Greece
1908	London, England
1912	Stockholm, Sweden

1916**	
1920	Antwerp, Belgium
1924	Paris, France
1928	Amsterdam, Holland
1932	Los Angeles, USA
1936	Berlin, Germany

1940**	
1944**	
1948	London, England
1952	Helsinki, Finland
1956	Melbourne, Australia
1960	Rome, Italy
1964	Tokyo, Japan
1968	Mexico City, Mexico
1972	Munich, W Germany
1976	Montreal, Canada
1980	Moscow, former USSR

1984	Los Angeles, USA
1988	Seoul, South Korea
1992	Barcelona, Spain
1996	Atlanta, USA
2000	Sydney, Australia
2004	Athens, Greece
2008	Beijing, China
2012	London, England
2016	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2020	Tokyo, Japan (held on 2021)
2024	Paris, France (to be held)

TOKYO OLYMPICS-2020

The 2020 Summer Olympics, officially the Games of the XXXII Olympiad and branded as Tokyo 2020, was an international multi-sport event held from 23 July to 8 August 2021 in Tokyo, Japan, with some preliminary events that began on 21 July. The United States topped the medal count by both total golds (39) and total medals (113), with China finishing second by both respects (38 and 88). Host nation Japan finished third, setting a record for the most gold medals and total medals ever won by their delegation at an Olympic Games with 27 and 58. Great Britain finished fourth, with a total of 22 gold and 65 medals, becoming the first nation at the Summer Olympics to increase or equal their total medals won in the two Games subsequent to hosting them. The Russian delegation competing as the ROC finished fifth with 20 gold medals and third in the overall medal count, with 71 medals. India finished 48th with 7 medals (1G, 2S, 4B).

INDIA'S MEDAL WINNERS IN TOKYO OLYMPICS

Gold Medal

- **Neeraj Chopra** (Men's Javelin Throw)

Silver Medal

- **Mirabai Chanu** (Women's 49 kg Weightlifting)
- **Ravi Kumar Dahiya** (Men's 57 kg Wrestling)

Bronze Medal

- **Lovlina Borgohain** (Women's Welterweight Boxing)
- **PV Sindhu** (Women's Singles Badminton)
- **Indian Hockey Team** (Men's Hockey)
- **Bajrang Punia** (Men's 65 kg Wrestling)

* This celebration (to mark the tenth anniversary of the modern games) was official but not numbered.

** Not celebrated owing to war.

Final Medals Tally up to 9th Position

Rank	Country	G	S	B	Total
1	USA	39	41	33	113
2	China	38	32	18	88
3	Japan	27	14	17	58
4	Great Britain	22	21	22	65
5	ROC	20	28	23	71
6	Australia	17	7	22	46
7	Netherlands	10	12	14	36
8	France	10	12	11	33
9	Germany	10	11	16	37
48	India	1	2	4	7

TOKYO PARALYMPICS-2020

Tokyo Paralympic Games 2020 held from August 24 to September 5, 2021 in Japan. It was the 16th edition of Summer Paralympic Games. Total 359 Gold medals were at stake in 22 sports in this Paralympics. 4403 para-athletes from 162 countries and organizations took part in the Tokyo Paralympics in 22 sports. China emerged the overall champion in the Tokyo Paralympic Games 2020 by finishing the medals table on top with total 207 medals including whopping 96 Gold medals in its kitty. Great Britain and the USA finished second and third respectively on the medals table. Great Britain clinched total 124 medals including 41 Gold and 38 Silver medals while the USA claimed 104 medals with 37 Golds to finish on third spot. The Indian Contingent finished their campaign at the Tokyo Paralympic Games 2020 at an all-time high by securing a total of 19 medals which include 5 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze medals.

ASIAN GAMES (ASIAD)

The Asian Relations Conference held at New Delhi in 1947 decided to organise a sports festival among the Asian countries including India, China, Indonesia and Japan after every four years in order to foster a keener competition and sports consciousness among the Asian sportsmen. These games were first held at New Delhi in 1951. In the table given below the year and venue of Asian Games are shown:

1951	New Delhi (India)
1954	Manila (Philippines)
1958	Tokyo (Japan)

1962	Jakarta (Indonesia)
1966	Bangkok (Thailand)
1970	Bangkok (Thailand)

1974	Tehran (Iran)
1978	Bangkok (Thailand)
1982	New Delhi (India)
1986	Seoul (S Korea)
1990	Beijing (China)
1994	Hiroshima (Japan)
1998	Bangkok (Thailand)

2002	Busan (South Korea)
2006	Doha (Qatar)
2010	Guangzhou (China)
2014	Incheon (South Korea)
2018	Jakarta (Indonesia)
2022	Hangzhou (China) Scheduled

Asian Games-2018 : The 2018 Asian Games is a pan-Asian multisport event which were held from 18 August to 2 September 2018 in the Indonesian cities of Jakarta and Palembang. And at last, China led the medal table with 289 medals (Gold : 132, Silver : 92, Bronze : 65) followed by Japan and South Korea. The next Asian Games will be held at Hangzhou in China in 2022.

FIFA World Cup, 2018: At the close of the colourful event for over a month, France defeated Croatia (4-2) in the final to lift the prestigious soccer cup at Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow (Russia) on July 15, 2018.

WORLD CUP FOOTBALL HISTORY

Year	Winner	Runners-Up
1930	Uruguay	Argentina
1934	Italy	Czechoslovakia
1938	Italy	Hungary
1950	Uruguay	Brazil
1954	West Germany	Hungary
1958	Brazil	Sweden
1962	Brazil	Czechoslovakia
1966	England	West Germany
1970	Brazil	Italy
1974	W. Germany	Poland

Year	Winner	Runners-Up
1978	Argentina	Holland
1982	Italy	W. Germany
1986	Argentina	W. Germany
1990	W. Germany	Argentina
1994	Brazil	Italy
1998	France	Brazil
2002	Brazil	Germany
2006	Italy	France
2010	Spain	Netherlands
2014	Germany	Argentina
2018	France	Croatia
2022	Qatar (to be held)	

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP, 2019

In one of the most dramatic World Cup finals ever, England won the title for the first time on July 14, 2019 at Lords in London. England won after a super over after the scores ended tied after 50 overs each. The 2015 World Cup runners-up New Zealand batting first scored 241 for eight. In reply England also scored 241 for ten and the final advanced to Super Over. This was the first time a World

Cup Final was decided with a Super Over. Both teams scored 15 runs in their super overs, but England lifted the trophy due to a tie-break rule because they hit the most boundaries. With this win England became the sixth country after West Indies, Australia, India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan to win the ICC Cricket World Cup.

WORLD CUP CRICKET HISTORY

Year	Venue	Winner/Ruuner
1975	U.K.	West Indies beat Australia
1979	U.K.	West Indies beat England
1983	U.K.	India beat West Indies
1987	India & Pakistan	Australia beat England
1992	Australia	Pakistan beat England
1996	India, Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka beat Australia
1999	U.K.	Australia beat Pakistan
2003	South Africa	Australia beat India
2007	West Indies	Australia beat Sri Lanka
2011	India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh	India beat Sri Lanka
2015	Australia, New Zealand	Australia beat New Zealand
2019	U.K.	England beat New Zealand
2023	India	(to be held)

COMMONWEALTH GAMES-2022

The 2022 Commonwealth Games, officially known as the XXII Commonwealth Games and commonly known as Birmingham 2022, was an international multi-sport event for members of the Commonwealth of Nations took place in Birmingham, England from 28 July to 8 August 2022.

Medal Tally (Top Ten)

CGA	G	S	B	Total
Australia	67	57	54	178
England	57	66	53	176
Canada	26	32	34	92
India	**22**	**16**	**23**	**61**
N. Zealand	20	12	17	49
Scotland	13	11	27	51
Nigeria	12	9	14	35
Wales	8	6	14	28
S. Africa	7	9	11	27
Malaysia	7	8	8	23

The Games was the largest ever held, with 72 Commonwealth Games Associations took part in the event. With 67 Gold, the Australia reclaimed the top position and most medals overall (178). England finished second and Canada finished third position. India finished 4th position with 61 medals (22 Gold, 16 silver and 23 Bronze). It was the first major international multi-sports event to be an integrated event, meaning that the para and non-para games held at, the same time. In addition, it was the first games to host more women's gold medals men's.

SPORTS STADIA IN INDIA

Wankhade Stadium—Mumbai; Netaji Indoor Stadium—Kolkata; Nehru Stadium—Chennai; National Stadium—Mumbai; Brabourne Stadium—Mumbai; Keenan Stadium—Jamshedpur; Yadavindra Stadium—Patiala; Barabati Stadium—Cuttack; Eden Gardens—Kolkata; Green Park—Kanpur; Shivaji Hockey Stadium—New Delhi; Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium—New Delhi; Salt Lake Stadium—Kolkata; Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium—New Delhi; Narendra Modi Stadium—Ahmedabad.

NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS, 2021

Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Award

Neeraj Chopra (athletics), Ravi Dahiya (wrestling), PR Sreejesh (hocky), Lovlina Borgohain (boxing), Sunil Chhetri (football), Mithali Raj (cricket), Pramod Bhagat (para-badminton), Sumit Antil (para-javelin), Avani Lekhara (para-shooting), Krishna Nagar (para-badminton) and Manish Narwal (para-shooting).

Arjuna Awards

Arpinder Singh (triple jump), Simranjit Kaur (boxing), Shikhar Dhawan (cricket), Bhavani Devi (fencing), Monika (hockey), Vandana Katariya (hockey), Sandeep Narwal (kabaddi), Himani Uttam Parab (mallakhamb), Abhishek Verma (shooting), Ankita Raina (tennis), Deepak Punia (wrestling), Dilpreet Singh (hockey), Harmanpreet Singh (hockey), Rupinder Pal Singh (hockey), Surendra Kumar (hockey), Amit Rohidas (hockey), Birendra Lakra (hockey), Sumit (hockey), Nilakanta Sharma (hockey), Hardik Singh (hockey), Vivek Sagar Prasad (hockey), Gurjant Singh (hockey), Mandeep Singh (hockey), Shamsher Singh (hockey), Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (hockey), Varun Kumar (hockey), Simranjeet Singh (hockey), Yogesh Kathuniya (para-athletics), Nishad Kumar (para-athletics), Praveen Kumar (para-athletics), Suhash Yathiraj (para-badminton), Singhraj Adhana (parashooting), Bhavina Patel (paratable tennis), Harvinder Singh (para-archery) and Sharad Kumar (para-athletics).

Dronacharya Awards

Regular Category: Jai Prakash Nautiyal (para-shooting), Mahaveer Prasad Saini (Para-athletics), Pritam Siwach (hockey), Radhakrishnan Nair (athletics), Sandeep Sangwan (hockey), Sandhya Gurung (boxing), Sujeet Maan (wrestling) and Subramanian Raman (table tennis). ***Life-time Category:*** Ashan Kuamr (kabaddi), Bhaskar Chandra Bhatt (hockey), CR Kumar (hockey), Jagrup Rathi (wrestling), S Muralidharan (badminton), Sarkar Talwar (cricket), Sarpal Singh (hockey), Tapan Kumar Panigrahi (swimming) and TP Ouseph (athletics).

SOME IMPORTANT RESULTS

TENNIS

- **Wimbledon Open (July, 2022)–***Men's Singles:* Novak Djokovic (Serbia) *Women's Singles:* Elena Rybakina (Russia)
- **Australian Open 2022 (Jan., 2022)–***Men's Singles:* Rafael Nadal (Spain); *Women's Singles:* Ashleigh Barty (Australia).
- **French Open (June, 2022)–***Men's Singles:* Rafael Nadal (Spain); *Women's Singles:* Iga Swiatek (Poland).
- **U.S. Open (Sept., 2021)–***Men's Singles:* Daniil Medvedev (Russia); *Women's Singles:* Emma Reducanu (Britain).
- **Mexican Open (February, 2022)–**Rafael Nadal (Spain).
- **Davis Cup (Dec., 2021)–**Russia defeated Croatia.

CRICKET

- **ICC World Cup (July 2019, London)–**England defeated New Zealand.
- **ICC Women's World Cup (April 2022, New Zealand)–**Australia defeated England.
- **Ranji Trophy (June 2022, Bengaluru)–**Madhya Pradesh defeated Mumbai
- **ICC World Test Championship (June 2021, Southampton)–**New Zealand defeated India.
- **IPL (May 2022, Ahmedabad)–**Gujarat Titans defeated Rajasthan Royals.
- **Under-19 World Cup (Feb., 2022, West Indies)–**India beat England.

FOOTBALL

- **Santosh Trophy (May 2022, Malappuram)–**Kerala beat West Bengal
- **CONCACAF Nations League Football Title (June 2021, Denver)–**USA beat ATK Mohun Bagan.

HOCKEY

- **Asian Men's Championship (Dec., 2021, Dhaka)–**South Korea beat Japan.
- **Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Tournament (March 2019, Ipoh)–**South Korea beat India.
- **National Hockey Championship (February 2019, Madhya Pradesh)–**Railway Sports Promotion Board beat Punjab.

BADMINTON

- **BWF World Tour Finals 2021 (January 2021, Bangkok)–**Tai Tzu-xing (Taiwan).
- **Swiss Open Super 300 Badminton Tournament (March 2021, Basel)–***Men's:* Viktor Axelsen (Denmark) *Women's:* Carolina Marin (Spain)
- **Badminton World Championship (August 2019, Basel)–**P.V. Sindhu (India).
- **All England Badminton Championship (March 2021)–**Lee Zii Jia (Malaysia) *(Men's)*, Nozomi Okuhara (Japan) *(Women's)*.

CHESS

- **Tata Steel Chess Title (January 2021, Wijk Aanzee)–**Van Forest (Jordan).
- **Fide World Chess Championship (Dec., 2021, Dubai)–**Magnus Carlsen.

GOLF

- **PGA Championship (May 2022, Tulsa)–**Justin Thomas (USA).
- **Mexico Open (May 2022, Mexico)–**Jon Rahm (Spain).
- **Hero World Challenge Golf Title (Dec., 2021, Nassau)–**Viktor Hovland (Norway).

BILLIARDS/SNOOKER

- **World Snooker Championship (May 2021, Sheffieled)–**Mark Selby (England).
- **World 6-Red Snooker (Sept. 2019, Mandalay)–**(*Men's*) Laxman Rawat (India); (*Women's*) Wongharuthai Nutcharat (Thailand).
- **Asian 10-Red Snooker (April 2019, Bengaluru)–**Pankaj Advani (India).

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CURRENT AFFAIRS
AND
Who's Who*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

❖ **Smt. Droupadi Murmu :** President ❖ **Sh. Jagdeep Dhankhar :** Vice-President

DROUPADI MURMU : NEW PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Smt. Droupadi Murmu is new President of India. She took oath on July 25, 2022. She is the first person belonging to a Scheduled Tribe (ST) community to become President of India. Prior to her presidency she served as the ninth Governor of Jharkhand between 2015 and 2021, and held various portfolios in the cabinet of Government of Odisha between 2000 to 2004. Before entering politics, she worked as a junior assistant in the State Irrigation and Power Department from 1979 to 1983, and then as a teacher at Sri Aurobindo Integral Education Centre at Rairangpur until 1997. In Presidential election, she won 50 per cent of the total value of valid votes at the end of third round of counting. Droupadi Murmu got 2161 votes whose electoral value is 5,77,777 while the opposition candidate Yashwant Sinha got 1058 votes of electoral value of 2,61,062. Droupadi Murmu was born on June 20, 1958 in a Santhali tribal family in Uparbeda village, Mayurbhanj district in Odisha. She became India's first women tribal governor and the first female tribal leader from Odisha to be appointed as a governor of an Indian state. She served as a member of the Odisha Legislative Assembly twice from the Rairangupur constituency, representing the BJP.

JAGDEEP DHANKHAR : NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Sh. Jagdeep Dhankhar is the 14th Vice President of India. He took oath on 11th August, 2022. In Vice Presidential election he got 528 votes against Opposition Candidate Margaret Alva's 182. Mr Jagdeep Dhankhar was Vice Presidential Candidate for BJP led NDA alliance. Prior to being the Vice President, Jagdeep Dhankhar had served as the Governor of West Bengal. He was born on 18th May 1951 in Kithana village in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district. He practiced law for over 40 years as a lawyer in Rajasthan High Court and then in Supreme Court. He has also been a ex-member of ICC - International Court of Arbitration. Mr Dhankar began his political journey in 1989-91, when he became a member of parliament from Jhunjhunu Lok Sabha constituency under the aegis of Janata Dal. He had also served as Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs in 1990-1991 under PM Chandra Shekhar's minority Government. He joined Indian National Congress after PV Narasimha Rao became the prime minister; but quickly shifted to BJP in 2008. In 2019, he was appointed as the Governor of West Bengal.

THE UNION COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

- **Narendra Modi :** Prime Minister and also in-charge of: Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; and All important policy issues; and All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister.

CABINET MINISTERS

- **Rajnath Singh :** Defence
- **Amit Shah :** Home Affairs and Cooperation
- **Nitin Gadkari :** Road Transport and Highways
- **Nirmala Sitharaman :** Finance; and Corporate Affairs
- **Narendra Singh Tomar :** Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **S. Jaishankar :** External Affairs
- **Arjun Munda :** Tribal Affairs
- **Smriti Zubin Irani :** Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs
- **Piyush Goyal :** Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Textiles
- **Dharmendra Pradhan :** Education; and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- **Pralhad Joshi :** Parliamentary Affairs; Coal and Mines

* As on August 22, 2022

MINISTERS OF STATE
(INDEPENDENT CHARGES)

- **Rao Inderjit Singh :** Statistics and Programme Implementation (Ind. Ch.); Planning (Ind. Ch.); and Corporate Affairs
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh :** Science and Technology (Ind. Ch.); Earth Sciences (Ind. Ch.); Prime Minister Office, Personnel; Public Grievances and Pensions; Atomic Energy; and Space

MINISTERS OF STATE

- **Shripad Yesso Naik :** Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Tourism
- **Faggansingh Kulaste :** Steel; and Rural Development
- **Prahalad Singh Patel :** Jal Shakti; and Food Processing Industries
- **Ashwini Kumar Choubey :** Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- **Arjun Ram Meghwal :** Parliamentary Affairs; and Culture
- **General (Retd) VK Singh :** Road Transport and Highways; and Civil Aviation
- **Krishan Pal :** Power; and Heavy Industries
- **Raosaheb Dadarao Danve :** Railways; and Coal and Mines
- **Ramdas Athawale :** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti :** Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Rural Development
- **Sanjeev Kumar Balyan :** Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- **Nityanand Rai :** Home Affairs
- **Pankaj Chaowdhary :** Finance
- **Anupriya Singh Patel :** Commerce and Industry
- **S.P. Singh Beghel :** Law and Justice
- **Rajeev Chandrasekhar :** Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and Electronics and Information Technology
- **Shobha Karandlaje :** Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma :** Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- **Darshana Vikram Jardosh :** Textiles and Railways
- **V. Muraleedharan :** External Affairs; and Parliamentary Affairs.
- **Meenakashi Lekhi :** External Affairs; and Culture
- **Som Parkash :** Commerce and Industry
- **Renuka Singh Saruta :** Tribal Affairs
- **Rameswar Teli :** Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Labour and Employment
- **Kailash Choudhary :** Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- **Annpurna Devi :** Education
- **A. Narayanaswamy :** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Kaushal Kishore :** Housing and Urban Affairs
- **Ajay Bhatt :** Defence and Tourism
- **B.L. Verma :** Development of North Eastern Region; and Cooperation
- **Ajay Kumar :** Home Affairs
- **Devusinh Chauhan :** Communications
- **Bhagwanth Khuba :** New and Renewable Energy; and Chemicals and Fertilizers
- **Kapil Moreshwar Patil :** Panchayati Raj
- **Pratima Bhoumik :** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Subhas Sarkar :** Education
- **Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad :** Finance
- **Rajkumar Ranjan Singh :** External Affairs; and Education
- **Bharati Pravin Pawar :** Health and Family Welfare
- **Bishweswar Tudu :** Tribal Affairs; and Jal Shakti
- **Shantanu Thakur :** Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- **Munjapara Mahendrabhai :** Women and Child Development; and AYUSH
- **John Barla :** Minority Affairs
- **L. Murugan :** Fisheries, Animal Husbandary and Dairying; and Information and Broadcasting
- **Nisith Pramanik :** Home Affairs; and Youth Affairs and Sports

- **A. Narayanaswamy :** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Kaushal Kishore :** Housing and Urban Affairs
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CURRENT NEWS

G-7 LAUNCHES PGII SCHEME

On June 26, 2022 US President Joe Biden along with his G7 allies launched the ambitious Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), announcing the collective mobilisation of $ 600 billion by 2027 to deliver 'game-changing' and 'transparent' infrastructure projects to developing and middle-income countries. The PGII is being seen as the G7's counter to China's multi-trillion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to build connectivity, infrastructure, and trade projects in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. India and the US will invest up to $ 30 million in Omnivore Agritech and Climate Sustainability Fund, an impact venture capital fund that invests in entrepreneurs building the future of agriculture, food systems, climate, and rural economy in India. The US, along with G7 partners the UK, Japan, France, Canada, Germany, Italy, and the European Union (EU), had in 2021 announced the launch of the Build Back Better World (B3W) with the aim of narrowing the $ 40 trillion infrastructure gap in the developing world. PGII is, therefore, a relaunch of Mr. Biden's B3W plan.

'AGNIPATH' SCHEME LAUNCHED

On 14 June, 2022, The Union Cabinet approved the scheme for Indian youth to serve in the Armed Forces. The youth selected under this scheme will be known as Agniveers. Lt. Gen. Arvind Walia, Chief of Staff, HQ Southern Command briefed the media at Pune on the newly launched 'Agnipath' scheme of recruitment into the Armed Forces. Since 2019, Government has had no recruitment in the Army done for three years. Agnipath allows youth to serve in the Armed Forces for a period of 4 years. It will provide an opportunity to the youth by attracting young talent from the society. It is notable that average age profile of Indian Armed forces would come down by about 4-5 years by implementation of this scheme. The nation stands to beef up by infusion of highly inspired youth with deeper understanding of self-discipline, diligence and focus to contribute in other sectors.

GRAMMY AWARDS-2022

64th annual Grammy Awards, the prestigious awards to acknowledge the great performances and work in music world, were conferred in different categories at a splendid awards ceremony at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, on April 3, 2022. Jon Batiste emerged as the biggest winner of the evening, with 5 wins out of 11 nominations. Olivia Rodrigo took home three Grammy trophies, including the best new artists. Indian-American singer Falguni Shah won the Best Children's Music Album Grammy for 'A Colourful World' while Indian composer Ricky Kej won his second Grammy. Kej won in the Best New Age Album category along with rock legend Stewart Copeland for Divine Tides (Lahiri Music).

WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP 2022

12th Edition of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup was successfully organized from March 4 to April 03, 2022 in New Zealand. Australia led by skipper Meg Lanning defeated defending champion England by 71 runs in final of the 2022 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup at the Hagley Oval in Christchurch on April 3, 2022 to clinch the record-extending 7th ICC Women's World Cup. Australia remained unbeaten in the entire tournament.

CAPITALS, GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS OF STATES

States	*Capitals*	*Governor*	*Chief Minister*
Andhra Pradesh	Amravati	Biswa Bhusan Harichandan	Y.S. Jagan mohan Reddy
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	B.D. Mishra	Pema Khandu
Assam	Dispur	Jagdish Mukhi	Himanta Biswa Sarma
Bihar	Patna	Phagu Chauhan	Nitish Kumar
Chattisgarh	Raipur	Anysuya Uikey	Bhupesh Baghel
Goa	Panaji	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai	Pramod Sawant
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Acharya Dev Vrat	Bhupendra Patel
Haryana	Chandigarh	Bandaru Dattatraya	Manohar Lal Khattar
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Jairam Thakur
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Ramesh Bais	Hemant Soren
Karnataka	Bengluru	Thawarchand Gehlot	Basavaraj Bommai
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Arif Mohammed Khan	Pinarayi Vijayan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel	Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Bhagat Singh Koshyari	Uddhav Thackeray
Manipur	Imphal	La Ganesan	N. Biren Singh
Meghalaya	Shillong	Satyapal Malik	Conrad K. Sangma
Mizoram	Aizawl	Hari Babu Kambhampati	P.U. Zoramthanga
Nagaland	Kohima	Jagdish Mukhi (Add. Ch.)	Neiphiu Rio
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Prof. Ganeshi Lal	Navin Patnayak
Punjab	Chandigarh	Banwari Lal Purohit	Bhagwant Mann
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Kalraj Mishra	Ashok Gehlot
Sikkim	Gangtok	Ganga Prasad	Prem Singh Tamang
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	R.N. Ravi	M.K. Stalin
Telangana	Hyderabad	Dr. T. Soundararajan	K. Chandrasekhar Rao
Tripura	Agartala	Satyadev Narayan Arya	Manik Saha
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Gurmit Singh	Pushkar Singh Dhami
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Anandiben Patel	Yogi Adityanath
West Bengal	Kolkata	Jagdeep Dhankhar	Mamata Banerjee

UNION TERRITORIES–HEADS & CHIEF MINISTERS

Territory	*Capital*	*Lt. Governor/ Administrator*	*Chief Minister*
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	Devendra Kumar Joshi	…
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Banwari Lal Purohit	…
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Due	Daman	Praful Khoda Patel	…
Delhi	Delhi	Vinai Kumar Saxena	Arvind Kejriwal
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	Praful Khoda Patel (Add. Ch.)	…
Puducherry	Puducherry	Dr. T. Soundararajan (Add. Ch.)	N. Rangasami
Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar (Summer) Jammu (Winter)	Manoj Sinha	—
Ladakh	Leh	R.K. Mathur	—

DELHI WHO'S WHO

❖ **Vinai Kumar Saxena:** Lieutenant Governor ❖ **Sanjay Arora:** Commissioner, Delhi Police

IMPORTANT OFFICIALS (GOVT OF INDIA & AUTONOMOUS BODIES)

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Atomic Energy Commission, Chairman	K.N. Vyas
BSF, Director General	Pankaj Kumar Singh
Central Adm. Tribunal, Chairman	Justice L. Narsimha Reddy
Central Board of Direct Taxes, Chairman	Nitin Gupta
Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Chairman	Vivek Jauhari
Cabinet Secretary	Rajiv Gauba
C.S.I.R., Director General	Shekhar C. Mande
Comptroller and Auditor General of India	Girish Chandra Murmu
CRPF, Director General	Kuldip Singh
CISF, Director General	Shilvardhan Singh
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C.B.I., Director	Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
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Indian Oil Corporation, Chairman	Shrikant Madhav Vaidhya
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ITBP, Director General	—
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National Commission for SC, Chairman	Vijay Sanpla
National Commission for ST, Chairman	Harsh Chouhan
National Commission for Minorities, Chairman	Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura
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Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., CMD	Subhash Kumar
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Railway Board, Chairman	Vinay Kumar Tripathi
Shipping Corporation of India, Chairman	H.K. Joshi
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S.S.C., Chairman	S. Kishore
Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Chairman	Madhabi Puri Buch
State Bank of India, Chairman	Dinesh Kumar Khara
Solicitor General of India	Tushar Mehta
U.P.S.C., Chairman	Dr. Manoj Soni
U.G.C., Chairman	Prof. M. Jagdesh Kumar
U.N.I., Chairman	Sagar Mukhopadhyay

OFFICIALS OF PARLIAMENT

1. ***Rajya Sabha:*** *Chairman:* Vice-President of India (Ex-officio); *Deputy Chairman:* Harivansh
2. ***Lok Sabha:*** *Speaker:* Om Birla; *Deputy Speaker:* —

CHIEFS OF INDIAN DEFENCE SERVICES

Supreme Commander: President of India; *Chief of Defence Staff (CDS):* —; *Chief of the Army Staff:* General Manoj Pande; *Chief of the Naval Staff:* Admiral R. Hari Kumar; *Chief of the Air Staff:* Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari

AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS

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China: Pradip Kumar Rawat; **Germany:** Harish Parvtaneni; **France:** Javed Ashraf; **Japan:** Sujan R. Chinoy; **U.S.A.:** Taranjit Singh Sandhu; **Nepal:** Manjeev Singh Puri; **U.N.:** T.S. Trimurti; **Finland:** Raveesh Kumar; **Kuwait:** Sibi George; **Bhutan:** Ruchira Kamboj; **Russia:** D.B. Venkatesh Varma.

Indian High Commissioners (Abroad)

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Foreign High Commissioners in India

Canada, Cameron Mackay; **U.K.,** Alex Ellis; **Bangladesh,** Muhammad Imran; **Australia,** Barry O'Farrell; **Pakistan,** —; **Sri Lanka:** Austin Fernando.

HEADS AND PRIME MINISTERS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

P—President; G.G.—Governor General; Q—Queen; K—King; C—Chancellor; E—Emir.

Country	***Head of State***	***Executive Head***
Argentina	Alberto Fernandez *(P)*	—
Australia	David Hurley *(GG)*	Scott Morrison
Austria	Alexander VanDer Belen *(P)*	Karl Nahammer *(C)*
Bangladesh	Abdul Hamid *(P)*	Sheikh Hasina
Brazil	Jair Bolsonaro *(P)*	—
Bhutan	Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck *(K)*	Dr. Lotay Tshering
Bulgaria	Rumen Radev *(P)*	Stefan Yanev
Belgium	Philip I *(K)*	Alexander De Croo
Bolivia	Luis Arce	—
Belarus	Alexander Lukashenko *(P)*	Roman Galovchenko
Burundi	Evariste Ndayishimiye *(P)*	Alain-Guillaume Bunyoni
Canada	Mary Simon (GG)	Justin Trudeau
Cambodia	Prince Norodom Sihamoni *(K)*	Hun Sen
Chile	Gabriel Boric *(P)*	—
China	Xi Jinping *(P)*	Li Keqiang
Colombia	Ivan Duque *(P)*	—
Congo	Felix Tshisekedi *(P)*	Jean Michel Sama Lukonde
Croatia	Zoran Milanovic *(P)*	Andrej Plenkovic
Cuba	Miguel Diaz Canel *(P)*	—
Cyprus	Nicos Anastasiades *(P)*	Faiz Sucuoglu
Czech Republic	Milos Zeman *(P)*	Petr Fiala
Denmark	Margreth II *(Q)*	Mette Frederiksen
El Salvador	Nayib Bukele *(P)*	—
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Fiji	Wiliame Katonivere *(P)*	Frank Bainimarama
France	Emmanuel Macron *(P)*	Jean Castex
Finland	Sauli Niinisto *(P)*	Sanna Marin
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Ghana	Nana Akufo Addo *(P)*	—
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Guinea	Mamady Doumbouya *(P)*	Moh. Beavogui
Guyana	Irfaan Ali	Mark Phillips
Hungary	Katalin Novak *(P)*	Viktor Orban
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Indonesia	Joko Widodo*(P)*	—
Iran	Ebrahim Raisi *(P)*	—
Ireland	Michael D. Higgins *(P)*	Micheal Martin
Israel	Isaac Herzog *(P)*	Naftali Bennett
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Italy	Sergio Mattarella *(P)*	Mario Draghi
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Jordan	King Abdullha II	Bisher Al-khasawneh
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Libya	Fayez Al-Sarraj	Abdul Hamid Dbeibeh
Laos	Thongloun Sisoulith *(P)*	Phankham Viphavamh
Lithuania	Gitanas Nauseda *(P)*	Ingrida Simonyte

Madagascar	Andry Rajoelina *(P)*	Christian Ntsay
Malaysia	Abdullah *(K)*	Ismail Sabri Yaakob
Maldives	Ibrahim Mohamed Solih *(P)*	—
Mauritius	Prithvirajsing Roopun *(P)*	Pravind Jugnauth
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U.A.E.	Moh. Bin Jaiyed Al Nahyan	Sheikh Maktoum Bin
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U.S.A.	Joe Biden *(P)*	—
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Vietnam	Nguyen Xuan Phue *(P)*	Pham Minh Chinh
Vatican City	Pope Francis	—
Zambia	Hakainde Hichilema *(P)*	—
Zimbabwe	Emmerson Mnangagwa *(P)*	—

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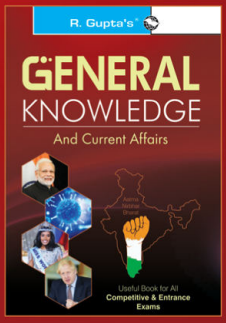

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